



General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 121
Pattern of conferences

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 60/236 B of 8 May 2006, 61/236 of 22 December 2006 and 62/225 of 22 December 2007,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2008,¹ the relevant reports of the Secretary-General² and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the existing special arrangements governing the recruitment of temporary assistance staff in the language services across the four main duty stations,³

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴

Reaffirming the pertinent provisions relating to conference services in its resolutions on multilingualism, in particular in resolution 61/266 of 16 May 2007,

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/63/32).*

² A/63/119 and Corr.1, and Add.1.

³ A/63/94.

⁴ A/63/509.



I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2008;¹
2. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2009, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,⁵ taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2009 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;
4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242, 57/283 B, 58/250, 59/265, 60/236 A, 61/236 and 62/225 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
6. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

II

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to the meetings of Member States;
2. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations remained at 83 per cent in 2007, the same as in 2006, which is above the established benchmark of 80 per cent;
3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to continue consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources;
4. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the bodies' utilization factor owing to the amount of time lost, and invites the secretariats and bureaux of bodies to pay adequate attention to avoiding late starts and unplanned early endings;

⁵ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/63/32), annex II.

5. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by the bodies entitled to meet "as required" that were provided with interpretation services in New York in 2007 was 88 per cent, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the provision of conference services to these bodies through the Committee on Conferences;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

7. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the improvement in the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations, which increased to 84 per cent in 2007 from 76 per cent in 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to employ innovative means to address the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

8. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/236, section II.A, paragraph 9, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies were held in Nairobi in 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Notes with appreciation* ongoing promotional efforts and initiatives undertaken by the management of the United Nations conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, which led to a continued upward trend in utilization of the premises in 2007;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore means to increase the utilization of the United Nations conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, bearing in mind the headquarters minimum operating security standards, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;⁶

⁶ ST/AI/416.

13. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

14. *Regrets* the voting incident in the seventh meeting of the Fourth Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure prompt and effective communication between the Secretariat and members of its General Committee;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the measures taken to avoid the recurrence of the above-mentioned situation in his next annual report on the pattern of conferences;

B. Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach) on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that implementation of the capital master plan, including the temporary relocation of conference-servicing staff to a swing space, will not compromise the quality of conference services provided to Member States in the six official languages and the equal treatment of the language services, which should be provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to receiving the maximum quality of services;

2. *Requests* all meeting requesters and organizers to liaise closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat on all matters related to the scheduling of meetings to allow maximum predictability in coordinating activities at Headquarters during the construction period;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under constant review, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the Committee on matters pertaining to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations during the construction period;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate information technology support for conference services, within the existing resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in order to ensure their seamless operation throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

5. *Notes* that during the implementation of the capital master plan, a part of the conference-servicing staff and information technology resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management will be temporarily relocated to a swing space, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate support, within the existing resources of the Department, to ensure continued maintenance of the information technology facilities of the Department, implementation of the global information technology initiative and delivery of quality conference services;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;

III

Integrated global management

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved in the implementation of the global information technology project, aimed at integrating, across duty stations, information technology into meetings management and documentation-processing

systems, and the global approach to harmonizing standards and information technology and sharing good practices and technological achievements among conference services at the four main duty stations;

2. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring equal treatment of conference-servicing staff as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

3. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report on the pattern of conferences information about the financial savings achieved through implementation of the integrated global management projects;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of those services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

6. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

8. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations and to report on a regular basis to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of

the conference services provided to them, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and committee chairpersons and secretaries on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress made in integrated global management;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the administrative policies, practices and procedures of conference services developed on the basis of recommendations of the task forces are in full compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

IV

Documentation and publication-related matters

1. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

4. *Reiterates with concern its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all six official languages are strictly respected as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve the documents planning process to ensure that the Fifth Committee receives, in the six official languages, all documents necessary for its consideration of a particular item, including reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, within the established time limits;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

- (a) Summary of the report;
- (b) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;
- (c) Relevant background information;

8. *Reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to improve the quality and accuracy of meeting records in all six official languages through full reliance in the preparation and translation of those records on sound recordings and written texts of statements as they were delivered in the original languages;

10. *Expresses its deep concern* at the unprecedented high level of late submission of documentation by author departments, which, in turn, has a negative impact on the functioning of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, through the Committee on Conferences, on urgent measures taken to improve overall timely submission, in particular by those submitting entities with submission compliance below 90 per cent for three years in a row;

11. *Notes with concern* the unprecedented delays in the issuance of documents in 2008, which heavily impacted the work of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to elaborate more effective accountability measures to ensure that both authors and their senior managers provide for the timely issuance of documents in all six official languages and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance his efforts to address the problem cited in paragraph 10 above, particularly concerning documentation considered at the second resumed session of the Fifth Committee during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, including convening the task force formed to study this matter, to provide an interim report on documentation concerning peacekeeping financing, to report on the results of these consultations and actions taken to solve this problem to the General Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences at its organizational session in 2009, in order for the Fifth Committee to consider the report at its second resumed session, and to provide a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;

13. *Recognizes* the increase of the workload of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the growing volume of reports and other documents before it, decides to authorize the Advisory Committee to meet for two additional weeks in 2009, on an exceptional basis, invites the Advisory Committee to continue considering how to better address its workload, and decides to discuss the number of weeks in a session of the Advisory Committee in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the associated expenditures in the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

15. *Stresses* the importance of the concordance principle in order to ensure equally valid texts of resolutions in all six official languages;

16. *Recalls*, section C, paragraph 12, of its resolution 54/248 and section III, paragraph 13, of its resolution 55/222, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to publish, prior to its sixty-fourth session, the updated version of the

Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations⁷ in the six official languages of the Organization;

V

Translation and interpretation-related matters

1. *Recalls* rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;
3. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General make sure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;
4. *Takes note* of the recommendations provided by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat in its report,³ and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;
5. *Reaffirms* section IV, paragraph 3, of its resolution 59/265, section IV, paragraph 4, of its resolution 60/236 B and section V, paragraph 3, of its resolution 61/236, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;
6. *Expresses continued concern* at the high vacancy rate in the interpretation and translation services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to address this as a matter of priority through, inter alia, assistance from Member States in advertising and facilitating the conduct of competitive examinations to fill these language vacancies;
7. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretariat to fill current and future vacancies at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the information contained in paragraph 107 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,⁸ and requests the Secretary-General to consider further measures aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates in Nairobi and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;
8. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiative to seek a long-term solution to the high vacancy rates in language services in the United Nations Office at Nairobi by engaging the services of a consultant to explore the possibilities of providing enhanced training programmes to potential professional translators and interpreters on the African continent, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on efforts in this regard;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine all aspects concerning recruitment and retention of language staff at the United Nations Office at Nairobi,

⁷ ST/SGB/2003/7.

⁸ A/63/119 and Corr.1.

to make recommendations in this regard and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Recognizes* the acute problems faced by the United Nations Office at Geneva in providing conference services as required, as described by the Secretary-General in paragraph 103 of his report on the pattern of conferences,⁸ and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to address these problems and to make all efforts to meet requirements in the context of the latest surge of meetings;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek a more effective strategy to fill current and future language post vacancies at all duty stations in a timely manner, takes note of paragraph 92 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,⁸ and also requests the Secretary-General to hold the competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff referred to in that paragraph, as well as other examinations beyond 2009, well in advance so as to fill current and future language post vacancies at all duty stations in a timely manner, and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session of efforts in this regard;

12. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General to address more effectively the demographic situation and the issue of succession planning, in particular by resorting to temporary assistance in dealing with acute needs, as well as enhancing internal and external training programmes, developing staff exchange programmes among organizations and participating in outreach to institutions that train language staff for international organizations, and requests him to continue to take such measures;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring the possibility of introducing a traineeship programme in order to attract and train young professionals for a career in the language services of the United Nations;

14. *Notes with concern* the challenges presented by the demographic situation in the language services, as described in paragraphs 91 to 95 of the report of the Secretary-General;⁸

15. *Notes* that the intention of the General Assembly, in adopting section VI, paragraph 1, of its resolution 57/305 of 15 April 2003, was to increase the availability of retired language staff for employment with the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to clarify and in turn implement the provisions of that paragraph concerning the ceiling on United Nations earnings of United Nations language staff retirees;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, including through the language-specific informational meetings held twice a year, and to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the accuracy of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the quality of translation;

18. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to enhance translation quality in all six official languages, in particular for contractual translation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation, with due consideration of the principle of equal grade for equal work;

20. *Takes note* of the information on the impact of freelance recruitment on the quality of interpretation at all duty stations contained in paragraphs 101 to 105 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁸ and requests the Secretary-General to report on the issue to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session through the Committee on Conferences;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of the staff needed to carry out this function.



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Agenda item 131

**Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution
of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International
Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former
Yugoslavia since 1991**

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

**Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of
Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International
Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former
Yugoslavia since 1991**

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, namely, the revised estimates relating to the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2008-2009,¹ the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009,² and the revised estimates arising in respect of Security Council resolution 1800 (2008) on the appointment of additional ad litem judges at the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,³

Having also considered the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the recommendations contained therein,⁴

Having also considered the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵

¹ A/63/513.

² A/63/559.

³ A/62/809.

⁴ A/63/5/Add.12.

⁵ A/63/595 and A/62/7/Add.38.



Stressing the need fully to respect and maintain the balance between the principal organs of the United Nations within their respective purviews and mandates in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming its authority in the consideration of all budgetary issues, as stipulated in the Charter,

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 62/230 of 22 December 2007,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2008-2009,¹ the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009,² and the revised estimates arising in respect of Security Council resolution 1800 (2008) on the appointment of additional ad litem judges at the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;³
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁴
3. *Reaffirms*, in the context of all Security Council decisions on the International Tribunals, the prerogatives of the General Assembly in the issues related to administrative and budgetary matters;
4. *Reiterates that*, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,⁶ the submission of the budget proposals is a prerogative of the Secretary-General;
5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters;
6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to bring to the attention of the President of the Security Council the contents of the present resolution;
7. *Decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 of a total amount of 376,232,900 United States dollars gross (342,332,300 dollars net) for the biennium 2008-2009, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;
8. *Also decides*, for the year 2009, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 101,158,400 dollars gross (91,981,800 dollars net), including 14,333,000 dollars gross (12,930,100 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;
9. *Further decides*, for the year 2009, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year, the amount of 101,158,400 dollars gross (91,981,800 dollars net),

⁶ ST/SGB/2003/7.

including 14,333,000 dollars gross (12,930,100 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

10. *Decides that*, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 18,353,200 dollars, including 2,805,800 dollars, being the increase of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2008-2009 of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	Net
	(United States dollars)	
1. Initial appropriation for the biennium 2008-2009 (resolution 62/230)	347 566 900	316 472 100
Add:		
2. Revised estimates for the biennium 2008-2009 after recosting (A/63/513 and A/63/595)	15 548 100	14 455 500
3. First performance report for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/63/559)	13 117 900	11 404 700
4. Estimated revised appropriation for the biennium 2008-2009	376 232 900	342 332 300
Less:		
5. Estimated income for the biennium 2008-2009	(265 300)	(265 300)
6. Assessment for 2008	173 650 800	158 103 400
7. Balance to be assessed for 2009	202 316 800	183 963 600
Including:		
8. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2009	101 158 400	91 981 800
9. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2009	101 158 400	91 981 800



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Agenda item 129

Administration of justice at the United Nations

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005, 61/261 of 4 April and 62/228 of 22 December 2007, and its decisions 62/519 of 6 December 2007 and 63/531 of 11 December 2008,

Reaffirming the decision in paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/261 to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike,

Having considered the reports of the of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations,¹ on the activities of the Office of the Ombudsman² and on the administration of justice in the Secretariat, including the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2006 and 2007 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel,³ the note by the Secretary-General on the administration of justice, including further information requested by the General Assembly,⁴ the letter dated 29 April 2008 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,⁵ the letter dated 27 October 2008 from the President of the General

¹ A/63/314 and A/62/782.

² A/63/283.

³ A/63/211.

⁴ A/62/748 and Corr.1.

⁵ A/C.5/62/27.



Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee⁶ and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.⁷

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations,¹ on the activities of the Office of the Ombudsman² on the administration of justice in the Secretariat, including the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2006 and 2007 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel,³ the note by the Secretary-General on the administration of justice, including further information requested by the General Assembly,⁴ the letter dated 29 April 2008 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,⁵ and the letter dated 27 October 2008 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee;⁶

2. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 61/261 and 62/228 on the establishment of the new system of administration of justice;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to staff members of the United Nations system who have participated in the system of administration of justice, including the joint disciplinary committees and the joint appeals boards;

4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the former and present members and staff of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for their work;

5. *Endorses the conclusions and recommendations* contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

New system of administration of justice

6. *Regrets the delays* in the filling of posts established by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/228, and requests the Secretary-General to fill the posts as a matter of priority, in particular the post of the Executive Director of the Office of Administration of Justice;

7. *Decides that* interns, type II gratis personnel and volunteers (other than United Nations Volunteers) shall have the possibility of asking for an appropriate management evaluation but shall not have access to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or to the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

8. *Recalls paragraphs 7 and 9 of its resolution 62/228 and its decision 63/531* to establish an ad hoc committee, and decides to revert to the issue of the scope of the system of administration of justice at its sixty-fifth session, with a view to ensuring that effective remedies are available to all categories of United Nations personnel, with due consideration given to the types of recourse that are the most appropriate to that end;

9. *Commends the role that volunteers have traditionally played in representing employees in the dispute resolution process under the existing system;*

⁶ A/C.5/63/9.

⁷ A/62/7/Add.39 and A/63/545.

10. *Notes* that some current and former United Nations staff have been reluctant to represent their fellow staff members in the dispute resolution process because of the burden that such service would place on them;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide incentives to encourage current and former staff to assist staff members in the dispute resolution process;

12. *Decides* that the role of professional legal staff in the Office of Staff Legal Assistance shall be to assist staff members and their volunteer representatives in processing claims through the formal system of administration of justice;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of its resolution 62/228, in which it decided to establish the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to succeed the Panel of Counsel, and decides to revert to the mandate and functioning of that Office, including the participation of current and former staff as volunteers, at its sixty-fifth session;

14. *Reiterates* paragraph 24 of its resolution 61/261, and requests the Secretary-General to report at its sixty-fifth session on proposals for a staff-funded scheme in the Organization that would provide legal assistance and support to staff;

15. *Decides* to revert to the issue of the possibility of staff associations filing applications before the Dispute Tribunal at its sixty-fifth session;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 55 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁸ and requests the Secretary-General to work with staff associations to develop incentives to enable and encourage staff to continue to participate in the work of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance, including by providing volunteer professional legal counsel;

II

Informal system

17. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Office of the Ombudsman towards the implementation of the new informal system as set out in resolution 62/228;

18. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, and emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation;

19. *Decides* that all persons who have access to the Office of the Ombudsman under the current system shall also have access to the new informal system;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider and make proposals at its sixty-fifth session for providing incentives for employees seeking dispute resolution to submit disputes to mediation under the auspices of the Office of the Ombudsman;

21. *Recalls* the request contained in paragraph 67 (a) of its resolution 62/228 for the Secretary-General to report to it on the revised terms of reference for the Ombudsman, and requests him to ensure that the terms of reference and guidelines for the Mediation Division are promulgated as soon as possible;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take advantage of existing mechanisms for conflict resolution and mediation, as deemed useful and appropriate, in order to facilitate a renewed dialogue between staff and management;

⁸ A/63/314.

23. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to issue a joint report in 2009 for the entities covered by the integrated Office of the Ombudsman, taking into consideration the different legislative bodies that will receive the report;

24. *Notes* section V, on systemic issues, of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Ombudsman,² and emphasizes that the role of the Ombudsman is to report on broad systemic issues that he or she identifies, as well as issues that are brought to his or her attention, in order to promote greater harmony in the workplace;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on specific measures taken to address systemic issues in the context of human resources management;

III

Formal system

26. *Decides* to adopt the statutes of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as set out in the annexes to the present resolution;

27. *Also decides* that the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal shall be operational as of 1 July 2009;

28. *Affirms* that the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal shall not have any powers beyond those conferred under their respective statutes;

29. *Notes* article 7.1 of the statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and article 6.1 of the statute of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, requests the Secretary-General to submit, for approval, the rules of procedure of the Tribunals as soon as possible but no later than at its sixty-fourth session, and decides that until then the Tribunals may apply the rules on a provisional basis;

30. *Approves* the proposed conditions of service of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General;⁸

31. *Decides* that the conditions of service referred to in paragraph 30 above shall be treated separately from the conditions of service of other judicial appointments in the United Nations system;

32. *Also decides* to carry out a review of the statutes of the Tribunals, in the light of experience gained, including on the efficiency of the overall functioning of the Tribunals, in particular regarding the number of judges and the panels of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, at its sixty-fifth session;

33. *Recalls* paragraph 49 of its resolution 62/228, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a new detailed proposal at its sixty-fifth session, including a variety of options for delegation of authority for disciplinary measures, with full costing and a cost-benefit analysis, taking into account the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁹

⁹ A/63/545.

34. *Also recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁹ and requests the Secretary-General to further clarify the role of the Department of Management in the evaluation process, in order to ensure the appropriate independence of the Management Evaluation Unit, and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

IV

Transitional measures

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the current formal system of administration of justice continues to function, as appropriate, until the completion of the transition to the new system;

36. *Recalls* paragraph 57 of its resolution 62/228, and in that context urges the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to reduce the existing backlog;

37. *Notes* the refusal of some staff associations to participate in the Joint Appeals Board and the Joint Disciplinary Committee, and authorizes the Secretary-General to obtain the assistance of other staff associations, including staff associations of the funds and programmes and at the various duty stations, in identifying staff members willing to serve on the Joint Appeals Board and/or Joint Disciplinary Committee, in order to ensure that the current system continues to operate in an effective and timely manner;

38. *Decides* to abolish, as of 1 July 2009, the joint appeals boards, the joint disciplinary committees and the disciplinary committees of the separately administered funds and programmes;

39. *Also decides* that the terms of the members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal that expire on 31 December 2008 shall be extended until 31 December 2009;

40. *Authorizes* honorariums for the members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal as of 1 January 2009, in the amount of 1,500 dollars per case (1,000 dollars for the drafter and 250 dollars each for the other two signatories);

41. *Acknowledges* the need to clear the existing backlog of cases as soon as possible, requests the Secretary-General to coordinate with the United Nations Administrative Tribunal in order to hold Administrative Tribunal sessions in 2009 earlier than scheduled, and authorizes extension of the sessions by up to four weeks;

42. *Decides* that the United Nations Administrative Tribunal will not accept new cases as of 1 July 2009;

43. *Also decides* to abolish the United Nations Administrative Tribunal as of 31 December 2009;

44. *Further decides* that all cases pending before the joint appeals boards, the joint disciplinary committees and the Disciplinary Committees be transferred, as from the abolishment of those bodies, to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

45. *Decides* that all cases from the United Nations and the separately administered funds and programmes pending before the United Nations Administrative Tribunal be transferred to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, as from the abolishment of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

46. *Also decides* that pending cases from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and from organizations that have concluded a special agreement with the Secretary-General, according to article 2, paragraph 10, of the statute of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, or article 2, paragraph 7, of the statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, will be transferred to the United Nations Appeals Tribunal or the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, as appropriate, as from the abolishment of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

47. *Invites* the United Nations Administrative Tribunal to consider cases from organizations that have concluded a special agreement under article 14 of the statute of the Tribunal as a matter of priority, with a view to concluding those cases before the abolishment of the Tribunal;

48. *Decides* that three ad litem judges shall be appointed by the General Assembly to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

49. *Stresses* that the three ad litem judges appointed to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal shall have all the powers conferred on the permanent judges of the Tribunal and be appointed only for a period of one year as from 1 July 2009;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all entities that utilize the United Nations Administrative Tribunal pursuant to article 14 of the statute of the Tribunal are notified that the Tribunal will cease to accept new cases as from 1 July 2009, and that if those entities (with the exception of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund) wish to continue to participate in the Organization's internal justice system it will be necessary to negotiate new special agreements;

51. *Invites* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to consider the new system of administration of justice as approved by the General Assembly;

V

Financial implications and cost-sharing arrangements

52. *Recalls* paragraphs 62 and 63 of its resolution 62/228, and requests the Secretary-General to conclude cost-sharing arrangements, based on headcount, with the relevant funds and programmes by 30 June 2009 and to report thereon;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet any additional requirements relating to the decisions in section IV above within the existing appropriation and to report on the actual costs in the context of the second performance report for the biennium 2008-2009;

VI

Other issues

54. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 59/283, and requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing rules and regulations, to pursue the financial liability of managers when the situation justifies such action;

55. *Also recalls* paragraph 69 of its resolution 62/228, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that information concerning the details of the new system of administration of justice, in particular options for recourse, is readily accessible by all persons covered under the new system, and stresses that the information should clearly explain the roles of the various elements in the new system, as well as the process for bringing complaints;

56. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the terms of reference of the Registries of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal as soon as possible;

57. *Decides* that for future appointments the Internal Justice Council shall not recommend more than one candidate from any one Member State for a judgeship on the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, or more than one candidate from any one Member State for a judgeship on the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

58. *Invites* Member States when electing judges to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal to take due consideration of geographical distribution and gender balance;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a review of the new system of administration of justice and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

60. *Decides* that the sub-item entitled "Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal" of the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments" shall be deleted from its agenda;

61. *Approves* revision of staff regulations 10.1 and 11.1, as proposed in paragraph 80 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁸ and decides to abolish staff regulations 10.2 and 11.2, with effect from the implementation of the new system of administration of justice on 1 July 2009.

Annex I

Statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal

Article 1

A tribunal is established by the present statute as the first instance of the two-tier formal system of administration of justice, to be known as the United Nations Dispute Tribunal.

Article 2

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an application filed by an individual, as provided in article 3, paragraph 1, of the present statute, against the Secretary-General, as the Chief Administrative Officer of the United Nations:

(a) To appeal an administrative decision that is alleged to be in non-compliance with the terms of appointment or the contract of employment. The words "contract" and "terms of appointment" include all pertinent regulations and rules and all relevant administrative issuances in force at the time of alleged non-observance;

(b) To appeal an administrative decision imposing a disciplinary measure;

(c) To enforce the implementation of an agreement reached through mediation pursuant to article 8, paragraph 2, of the present statute.

2. The Dispute Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an application filed by an individual requesting the Dispute Tribunal to suspend, during the pendency of the management evaluation, the implementation of a contested administrative decision that is the subject of an ongoing management evaluation, where the decision appears *prima facie* to be unlawful, in cases of particular urgency, and where its implementation would cause irreparable damage. The Dispute Tribunal's decision on such an application shall not be subject to appeal.

3. The Dispute Tribunal shall be competent to permit or deny leave to an application to file a friend-of-the-court brief by a staff association.

4. The Tribunal shall be competent to permit an individual who is entitled to appeal the same administrative decision under article 2, paragraph 1 (a), to intervene in a matter brought by another staff member under article 2, paragraph 1 (a).

5. The Dispute Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an application filed against a specialized agency brought into relationship with the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter of the United Nations or other international organization or entity established by a treaty and participating in the common system of conditions of service, where a special agreement has been concluded between the agency, organization or entity concerned and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to accept the terms of the Dispute Tribunal's jurisdiction, consonant with the present statute. Such special agreement shall provide that the agency, organization or entity concerned shall be bound by the judgements of the Dispute Tribunal and be responsible for the payment of any compensation awarded by the Dispute Tribunal in respect of its own staff members and shall include, inter alia, provisions concerning its participation in the administrative arrangements for the functioning of the Dispute Tribunal and concerning its sharing of the expenses of the Dispute Tribunal. Such special agreement shall also contain other provisions required for the Dispute Tribunal to carry out its functions vis-à-vis the agency, organization or entity.

6. In the event of a dispute as to whether the Dispute Tribunal has competence under the present statute, the Tribunal shall decide on the matter.

7. As a transitional measure, the Dispute Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on:

(a) A case transferred to it from a joint appeals board or a joint disciplinary committee established by the United Nations, or from another similar body established by a separately administered fund or programme;

(b) A case transferred to it from the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

as decided by the General Assembly.

Article 3

1. An application under article 2, paragraph 1, of the present statute may be filed by:

(a) Any staff member of the United Nations, including of the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes;

(b) Any former staff member of the United Nations, including of the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes;

(c) Any person making claims in the name of an incapacitated or deceased staff member of the United Nations, including of the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes.

2. A request for a suspension of action under article 2, paragraph 2, of the present statute may be filed by an individual, as provided in article 3, paragraph 1, of the present statute.

Article 4

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall be composed of three full-time judges and two half-time judges.

2. The judges shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Internal Justice Council in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/228. No two judges shall be of the same nationality. Due regard shall be given to geographical distribution and gender balance.

3. To be eligible for appointment as a judge, a person shall:

(a) Be of high moral character; and

(b) Possess at least 10 years of judicial experience in the field of administrative law, or the equivalent within one or more national jurisdictions.

4. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal shall be appointed for one non-renewable term of seven years. As a transitional measure, two of the judges (one full-time judge and one half-time judge) initially appointed, to be determined by drawing of lots, shall serve three years and may be reappointed to the same Dispute Tribunal for a further non-renewable term of seven years. A current or former judge of the Appeals Tribunal shall not be eligible to serve in the Dispute Tribunal.

5. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal appointed to replace a judge whose term of office has not expired shall hold office for the remainder of his or her predecessor's term, and may be reappointed for one non-renewable term of seven years, provided that the unexpired term is less than three years.

6. A former judge of the Dispute Tribunal shall not be eligible for any subsequent appointment within the United Nations, except another judicial post, for a period of five years following his or her term in office.

7. The Dispute Tribunal shall elect a President.

8. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal shall serve in his or her personal capacity and enjoy full independence.

9. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself from the case. Where a party requests such recusal, the decision shall be taken by the President of the Tribunal.
10. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal may only be removed by the General Assembly in case of misconduct or incapacity.
11. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal may resign, by notifying the General Assembly through the Secretary-General. The resignation shall take effect from the date of notification, unless the notice of resignation specifies a later date.

Article 5

The three full-time judges of the Dispute Tribunal shall normally perform their functions in New York, Geneva and Nairobi, respectively. The Dispute Tribunal may decide to hold sessions in other duty stations, as required by the caseload.

Article 6

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall make the administrative arrangements necessary for the functioning of the Dispute Tribunal, including provisions for the travel and related costs of staff whose physical presence before the Tribunal is deemed necessary by the Tribunal and for judges to travel as necessary to hold sessions at other duty stations.
2. The Registries of the Dispute Tribunal shall be established in New York, Geneva and Nairobi, each consisting of a Registrar and such other staff, as necessary.
3. The expenses of the Dispute Tribunal shall be borne by the United Nations.
4. Compensation ordered by the Dispute Tribunal shall be paid by the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes, as applicable and appropriate, or by the specialized agency, organization or entity that has accepted the jurisdiction of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 7

1. Subject to the provisions of the present statute, the Dispute Tribunal shall establish its own rules of procedure, which shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.
2. The rules shall include provisions concerning:
 - (a) Organization of work;

- (b) Presentation of submissions and the procedure to be followed in respect thereto;
- (c) Procedures for maintaining the confidentiality and inadmissibility of verbal or written statements made during the mediation process;
- (d) Intervention by persons not party to the case whose rights may be affected by the judgement;
- (e) Oral hearings;
- (f) Publication of judgements;
- (g) Functions of the Registries;
- (h) Procedure for summary dismissal;
- (i) Evidentiary procedure;
- (j) Suspension of contested administrative decisions;
- (k) Procedure for the recusal of judges;
- (l) Other matters relating to the functioning of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 8

1. An application shall be receivable if:
 - (a) The Dispute Tribunal is competent to hear and pass judgement on the application, pursuant to article 2 of the present statute;
 - (b) An applicant is eligible to file an application, pursuant to article 3 of the present statute;
 - (c) An applicant has previously submitted the contested administrative decision for management evaluation, where required; and
 - (d) The application is filed within the following applicable deadline:
 - (i) In cases where a management evaluation of the contested decision is required:
 - a. Within 90 calendar days after the applicant's receipt of the response by management to his or her submission; or
 - b. Within 90 calendar days after the expiry of the relevant response period for the management evaluation if no response to the request was provided. The response period shall be 30 calendar days after the submission of the decision to management evaluation for disputes arising at Headquarters and 45 calendar days for other offices;

(ii) In cases where a management evaluation of the contested decision is not required, within 90 calendar days after the applicant's receipt of the administrative decision;

(iii) The deadline provided for in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) above shall be extended to one year if the application is filed by any person making claims in the name of an incapacitated or deceased staff member of the United Nations, including of the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes;

(iv) Where the parties have sought mediation of their dispute within the deadline for the filing of an application under article 8, paragraph 1 (d), but did not reach an agreement, the application shall be receivable if filed within 90 calendar days after the mediation has broken down in accordance with the procedures laid down in the terms of reference of the Mediation Division.

2. An application shall not be receivable if the dispute arising from the contested administrative decision had been resolved by an agreement reached through mediation. However, an applicant may file an application to enforce the implementation of an agreement reached through mediation, which shall be receivable if the agreement has not been implemented and the application is filed within 90 days after the last day for the implementation as specified in the mediation agreement or, when the mediation agreement is silent on the matter, after the thirtieth day from the date of the signing of the agreement.

3. The Dispute Tribunal may decide in writing, upon written request by the applicant, to suspend or waive the deadlines for a limited period of time and only in exceptional cases. The Dispute Tribunal shall not suspend or waive the deadlines for management evaluation.

4. Notwithstanding article 8, paragraph 3, an application shall not be receivable if it is filed more than three years after the applicant's receipt of the contested administrative decision.

5. The filing of an application shall not have the effect of suspending the implementation of the contested administrative decision.

6. An application and other submissions shall be filed in any of the official languages of the United Nations.

Article 9

1. The Dispute Tribunal may order production of documents or such other evidence as it deems necessary.

2. The Dispute Tribunal shall decide whether the personal appearance of the applicant or any other person is required at oral proceedings and the appropriate means for satisfying the requirement of personal appearance.
3. The oral proceedings of the Dispute Tribunal shall be held in public unless the Dispute Tribunal decides, at its own initiative or at the request of either party, that exceptional circumstances require the proceedings to be closed.

Article 10

1. The Dispute Tribunal may suspend proceedings in a case at the request of the parties for a time to be specified by it in writing.
2. At any time during the proceedings, the Dispute Tribunal may order an interim measure, which is without appeal, to provide temporary relief to either party, where the contested administrative decision appears *prima facie* to be unlawful, in cases of particular urgency, and where its implementation would cause irreparable damage. This temporary relief may include an order to suspend the implementation of the contested administrative decision, except in cases of appointment, promotion or termination.
3. At any time during the deliberations, the Dispute Tribunal may propose to refer the case to mediation. With the consent of the parties, it shall suspend the proceedings for a time to be specified by it. If a mediation agreement is not reached within this period of time, the Dispute Tribunal shall continue with its proceedings unless the parties request otherwise.
4. Prior to a determination of the merits of a case, should the Dispute Tribunal find that a relevant procedure prescribed in the Staff Regulations and Rules or applicable administrative issuances has not been observed, the Dispute Tribunal may, with the concurrence of the Secretary-General, remand the case for institution or correction of the required procedure, which, in any case, should not exceed three months. In such cases, the Dispute Tribunal may order the payment of compensation for procedural delay to the applicant for such loss as may have been caused by such procedural delay, which is not to exceed the equivalent of three months' net base salary.
5. As part of its judgement, the Dispute Tribunal may order one or more of the following:
 - (a) Rescission of the contested administrative decision or specific performance, provided that, where the contested administrative decision concerns appointment, promotion or termination, the Dispute Tribunal shall also set an amount of compensation that the respondent may elect to pay as an alternative to the rescission of the contested administrative decision or specific performance ordered, subject to subparagraph (b);

(b) Compensation, which shall normally not exceed the equivalent of two years' net base salary of the applicant. The Dispute Tribunal may, however, in exceptional cases order the payment of a higher compensation and shall provide the reasons for that decision.

6. Where the Dispute Tribunal determines that a party has manifestly abused the proceedings before the Tribunal, it may award costs against that party.

7. The Dispute Tribunal shall not award exemplary or punitive damages.

8. The Dispute Tribunal may refer appropriate cases to the Secretary-General or the executive heads of separately administered United Nations funds and programmes for possible action to enforce accountability.

9. Cases before the Dispute Tribunal shall normally be considered by a single judge. However, the President of the Appeals Tribunal may, within seven calendar days of a written request by the President of the Dispute Tribunal, authorize the referral of a case to a panel of three judges of the Dispute Tribunal when necessary by reason of the particular complexity or importance of the case. Cases referred to a panel of three judges shall be decided by a majority vote.

Article 11

1. The judgements of the Dispute Tribunal shall be issued in writing and shall state the reasons, facts and law on which they are based.

2. The deliberations of the Dispute Tribunal shall be confidential.

3. The judgement of the Dispute Tribunal shall be binding upon the parties, but is subject to appeal in accordance with the statute of the Appeals Tribunal. In the absence of such appeal, it shall be executable following the expiry of the time provided for appeal in the statute of the Appeals Tribunal.

4. The judgements of the Dispute Tribunal shall be drawn up in any of the six official languages of the United Nations, in two originals, which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

5. A copy of the judgement shall be communicated to each party in the case. The applicant shall receive a copy in the language in which the application was submitted unless he or she requests a copy in another of the official languages of the United Nations.

6. The judgements of the Dispute Tribunal shall be published, while protecting personal data, and made generally available by the Registry of the Tribunal.

Article 12

1. Either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for a revision of an executable judgement on the basis of the discovery of a decisive fact which was, at the time the judgement was rendered, unknown to the Dispute Tribunal and to the party claiming revision, always provided that such ignorance was not due to negligence. The application must be made within thirty days of the discovery of the fact and within one year of the date of the judgement.
2. Clerical or arithmetical mistakes, or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the Dispute Tribunal, either on its own motion or on the application of any of the parties.
3. Either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for an interpretation of the meaning or the scope of the final judgement, provided that it is not under consideration by the Appeals Tribunal.
4. Once a judgement is executable under article 11, paragraph 3, of the present statute, either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for an order for execution of the judgement if the judgement requires execution within a certain period of time and such execution has not been carried out.

Article 13

The present statute may be amended by decision of the General Assembly.

Annex II**Statute of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal****Article 1**

A tribunal is established by the present statute as the second instance of the two-tier formal system of administration of justice, to be known as the United Nations Appeals Tribunal.

Article 2

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an appeal filed against a judgement rendered by the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in which it is asserted that the Dispute Tribunal has:

- (a) Exceeded its jurisdiction or competence;
- (b) Failed to exercise jurisdiction vested in it;
- (c) Erred on a question of law;
- (d) Committed an error in procedure, such as to affect the decision of the case; or
- (e) Erred on a question of fact, resulting in a manifestly unreasonable decision.

2. An appeal may be filed by either party (i.e., the applicant, a person making claims in the name of an incapacitated or deceased applicant, or the respondent) to a judgement of the Dispute Tribunal.

3. The Appeals Tribunal may affirm, reverse, modify or remand the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal. It may also issue all orders necessary or appropriate in aid of its jurisdiction and consonant with the present statute.

4. In cases of appeal under article 2, paragraph 1 (e), the Appeals Tribunal shall be competent to:

(a) Affirm, reverse or modify findings of fact of the Dispute Tribunal on the basis of substantial evidence in the written record; or

(b) Remand the case to the Dispute Tribunal for additional factual findings, subject to article 2, paragraph 5, if it determines that further findings of fact are necessary.

5. In exceptional circumstances, and where the Appeals Tribunal determines that the facts are likely to be established with documentary evidence, including written testimony, it may receive such additional evidence if that is in the interest of justice and the efficient and expeditious resolution of the proceedings.

Where this is not the case, or where the Appeals Tribunal determines that a decision cannot be taken without oral testimony or other forms of non-written evidence, it shall remand the case to the Dispute Tribunal. The evidence under this paragraph shall not include evidence that was known to either party and should have been presented at the level of the Dispute Tribunal.

6. Where the Appeals Tribunal remands a case to the Dispute Tribunal, it may order that the case be considered by a different judge of the Dispute Tribunal.

7. For the purposes of this article, "written record" means anything that has been entered in the formal record of the Dispute Tribunal, including submissions, evidence, testimony, motions, objections, rulings and the judgement, and any evidence received in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of the present statute.

8. In the event of a dispute as to whether the Appeals Tribunal has competence under the present statute, the Tribunal shall decide on the matter.

9. The Appeals Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an appeal of a decision of the Standing Committee acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, alleging non-observance of the regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, submitted by:

(a) Any staff member of a member organization of the Pension Fund which has accepted the jurisdiction of the Appeals Tribunal in Pension Fund cases who is eligible under article 21 of the regulations of the Fund as a participant in the Fund, even if his or her employment has ceased, and any person who has acceded to such staff member's rights upon his or her death;

(b) Any other person who can show that he or she is entitled to rights under the regulations of the Pension Fund by virtue of the participation in the Fund of a staff member of such member organization.

In such cases, remands, if any, shall be to the Standing Committee acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board.

10. The Appeals Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement on an application filed against a specialized agency brought into relationship with the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter of the United Nations or other international organization or entity established by a treaty and participating in the common system of conditions of service, where a special agreement has been concluded between the agency, organization or entity concerned and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to accept the terms of the Appeals Tribunal's jurisdiction, consonant with the present statute. Such special agreement shall provide that the agency, organization or entity concerned shall be bound by the judgements of the Appeals Tribunal and be responsible for the payment of any compensation awarded by the Appeals Tribunal in respect of its own staff members and shall include, inter alia, provisions

concerning its participation in the administrative arrangements for the functioning of the Appeals Tribunal and concerning its sharing of the expenses of the Appeals Tribunal. Such special agreement shall also contain other provisions required for the Appeals Tribunal to carry out its functions vis a vis the agency, international organization or entity. Such special agreement may only be concluded if the agency, international organization or entity utilizes a neutral first instance process that includes a written record and a written decision providing reasons, fact and law. In such cases remands, if any, shall be to the first instance process of the agency, international organization or entity.

Article 3

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall be composed of seven judges.
2. The judges shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Internal Justice Council in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/228. No two judges shall be of the same nationality. Due regard shall be given to geographical distribution and gender balance.
3. To be eligible for appointment as a judge, a person shall:
 - (a) Be of high moral character; and
 - (b) Possess at least 15 years of judicial experience in the field of administrative law, or the equivalent within one or more national jurisdictions.
4. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal shall be appointed for one non-renewable term of seven years. As a transitional measure, three of the judges initially appointed, to be determined by drawing of lots, shall serve three years and may be reappointed to the same Appeals Tribunal for a further non-renewable term of seven years. A current or former judge of the Dispute Tribunal shall not be eligible to serve in the Appeals Tribunal.
5. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal appointed to replace a judge whose term of office has not expired shall hold office for the remainder of his or her predecessor's term and may be reappointed for one non-renewable term of seven years, provided that the unexpired term is less than three years.
6. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal shall not be eligible for any appointment within the United Nations, except another judicial post, for a period of five years following his or her term in office.
7. The Appeals Tribunal shall elect a President and two Vice-Presidents.
8. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal shall serve in his or her personal capacity and enjoy full independence.

9. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself from the case. Where a party requests such recusal, the decision shall be taken by the President of the Tribunal.

10. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal may only be removed by the General Assembly in case of misconduct or incapacity.

11. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal may resign, by notifying the General Assembly through the Secretary-General. The resignation shall take effect from the date of notification, unless the notice of resignation specifies a later date.

Article 4

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall perform its functions in New York. However, it may decide to hold sessions in Geneva or Nairobi as required by its caseload.

2. The Appeals Tribunal shall hold ordinary sessions at dates to be fixed by its rules, subject to the determination of the President that there is a sufficient number of cases to justify holding the session.

3. Extraordinary sessions may be convoked by the President, as required by the caseload.

Article 5

1. The Secretary-General shall make the administrative arrangements necessary for the functioning of the Appeals Tribunal, including provisions for the travel and related costs of staff whose physical presence before the Tribunal is deemed necessary by the Tribunal and for judges to travel as necessary to hold sessions in Geneva and Nairobi.

2. The Registry of the Appeals Tribunal shall be established in New York, consisting of a Registrar and such other staff as necessary.

3. The expenses of the Appeals Tribunal shall be borne by the United Nations.

4. Compensation ordered by the Appeals Tribunal shall be paid by the United Nations Secretariat or separately administered United Nations funds and programmes as applicable and appropriate, or by the specialized agency, organization or entity that has accepted the jurisdiction of the Appeals Tribunal.

Article 6

1. Subject to the provisions of the present statute, the Appeals Tribunal shall establish its own rules of procedure, which shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.

2. The rules shall include provisions concerning:
 - (a) Election of the President and Vice-Presidents;
 - (b) Composition of the Tribunal for its sessions;
 - (c) Organization of work;
 - (d) Presentation of submissions and the procedure to be followed in respect thereto;
 - (e) Procedures for maintaining the confidentiality and inadmissibility of verbal or written statements made during the mediation process;
 - (f) Intervention by persons not party to the case whose rights may have been affected by the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal and whose rights might therefore also be affected by the judgement of the Appeals Tribunal;
 - (g) The filing of friend-of-court briefs, upon motion and with the permission of the Appeals Tribunal;
 - (h) Oral proceedings;
 - (i) Publication of judgements;
 - (j) Functions of the Registry;
 - (k) Procedure for the recusal of judges;
 - (l) Other matters relating to the functioning of the Tribunal.

Article 7

1. An appeal shall be receivable if:
 - (a) The Appeals Tribunal is competent to hear and pass judgement on the appeal, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 1, of the present statute;
 - (b) The appellant is eligible to file the appeal, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, of the present statute; and
 - (c) The appeal is filed within 45 days of the receipt of the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal or, where the Appeals Tribunal has decided to waive or suspend that deadline in accordance with paragraph 3 below, within the period specified by the Appeals Tribunal.
2. For purposes of applications alleging non-observance of the regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund arising out of a decision of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, an application shall be receivable if filed within 90 days from the receipt of the Board's decision.
3. The Appeals Tribunal may decide in writing, upon written request by the applicant, to suspend or waive the deadlines for a limited period of time and only

in exceptional cases. The Appeals Tribunal shall not suspend or waive the deadlines for management evaluation.

4. Notwithstanding article 7, paragraph 3, an application shall not be receivable if it is filed more than one year after the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal.

5. The filing of appeals shall have the effect of suspending the execution of the judgement contested.

6. An appeal and other submissions shall be filed in any of the official languages of the United Nations.

Article 8

1. The Appeals Tribunal may order production of documents or such other evidence as it deems necessary, subject to article 2 of the present statute.

2. The Appeals Tribunal shall decide whether the personal appearance of the appellant or any other person is required at oral proceedings and the appropriate means to achieve that purpose.

3. The judges assigned to a case will determine whether to hold oral proceedings.

4. The oral proceedings of the Appeals Tribunal shall be held in public unless the Appeals Tribunal decides, at its own initiative or at the request of either party, that exceptional circumstances require the proceedings to be closed.

Article 9

1. The Appeals Tribunal may order one or more of the following:

(a) Rescission of the contested administrative decision or specific performance, provided that, where the contested administrative decision concerns appointment, promotion or termination, the Appeals Tribunal shall also set an amount of compensation that the respondent may elect to pay as an alternative to the rescission of the contested administrative decision or specific performance ordered, subject to subparagraph (b);

(b) Compensation, which shall normally not exceed the equivalent of two years' net base salary of the applicant. The Appeals Tribunal may, however, in exceptional cases order the payment of a higher compensation and shall provide the reasons for that decision.

2. Where the Appeals Tribunal determines that a party has manifestly abused the appeals process, it may award costs against that party.

3. The Appeals Tribunal shall not award exemplary or punitive damages.

4. At any time during the proceedings, the Appeals Tribunal may order an interim measure to provide temporary relief to either party to prevent irreparable harm and to maintain consistency with the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal.
5. The Appeals Tribunal may refer appropriate cases to the Secretary-General or executive heads of separately administered United Nations funds and programmes for possible action to enforce accountability.

Article 10

1. Cases before the Appeals Tribunal shall normally be reviewed by a panel of three judges and shall be decided by a majority vote.
2. Where the President or any two judges sitting in a particular case consider that the case raises a significant question of law, at any time before judgement is rendered, the case may be referred for consideration by the whole Appeals Tribunal. A quorum in such cases shall be five judges.
3. The judgements of the Appeals Tribunal shall be issued in writing and shall state the reasons, facts and law on which they are based.
4. The deliberations of the Appeals Tribunal shall be confidential.
5. The judgements of the Appeals Tribunal shall be binding upon the parties.
6. The judgements of the Appeals Tribunal shall be final and without appeal, subject to the provisions of article 11 of the present statute.
7. The judgements of the Appeals Tribunal shall be drawn up in any of the official languages of the United Nations, in two originals, which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.
8. A copy of the judgement shall be communicated to each party in the case. The applicant shall receive a copy in the language in which the appeal was submitted unless he or she requests a copy in another of the official languages of the United Nations.
9. The judgements of the Appeals Tribunal shall be published, while protecting personal data, and made generally available by the Registry of the Tribunal.

Article 11

1. Subject to article 2, either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal for a revision of a judgement on the basis of the discovery of a decisive fact which was, at the time the judgement was rendered, unknown to the Appeals Tribunal and to the party claiming revision, always provided that such ignorance was not due to

negligence. The application must be made within 30 days of the discovery of the fact and within one year of the date of the judgement.

2. Clerical or arithmetical mistakes, or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the Appeals Tribunal either on its own motion or on the application of any of the parties.

3. Either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal for an interpretation of the meaning or scope of the judgement.

4. Where the judgement requires execution within a certain period of time and such execution has not been carried out, either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal for an order for execution of the judgement.

Article 12

The present statute may be amended by decision of the General Assembly.



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Sixty-third session
Fifth Committee

Agenda item 118

Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Information and communications technology, enterprise resource planning, and security, disaster recovery and business continuity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/304 of 15 April 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/283, section II, of 1 July 2006 and 62/250 of 20 June 2008,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in information and communications technology: information and communications strategy for the United Nations Secretariat"¹ and the addendum thereto,² the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Information and communications technology: enterprise systems for the United Nations Secretariat worldwide",³ the report of the Secretary-General on information and communications technology security, disaster recovery and business continuity for the United Nations,⁴ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵ the first progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations⁶ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷ the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in information and communications technology: status report"⁸ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁹ the note by the Secretary-General on information and communication technology security, business continuity and

¹ A/62/793 and Corr.1.

² A/62/793/Add.1.

³ A/62/510/Rev.1.

⁴ A/62/477.

⁵ A/63/487 and Corr.1 and 2.

⁶ A/62/806.

⁷ A/63/496.

⁸ A/62/502.

⁹ A/62/7/Add.31.



disaster recovery¹⁰ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹¹ the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide: interim report: investing in information and communications technology: one United Nations, one information and communications technology"¹² and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹³ the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies of the United Nations system organizations towards the use of open source software in the secretariats¹⁴ and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,¹⁵ the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on knowledge management in the United Nations system¹⁶ and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,¹⁷ and the report of the Secretary-General on the feasibility of the application of cost-accounting principles in the United Nations Secretariat¹⁸ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁹

Underlining the importance of information and communications technology in meeting the growing demands of the Organization as it becomes increasingly reliant on its information technology and communications infrastructure,

Also underlining the importance of information and communications technology in strengthening oversight and accountability and in increasing the availability of accurate and timely information to support decision-making,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;
2. *Recalls* the role of the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations;
3. *Recognizes* the need for central authority to set common standards, provide an organization-wide perspective, optimize use of resources and improve information and communications technology services;
4. *Also recognizes* the need for an integrated, global information system that enables the effective management of human, financial and physical resources and that is based on streamlined business processes and best practices;
5. *Further recognizes* the need for a global operational framework to enable the United Nations to respond effectively to emergency situations that may impair

¹⁰ A/61/290.

¹¹ A/61/478.

¹² A/61/765.

¹³ A/61/804.

¹⁴ A/60/665.

¹⁵ A/60/665/Add.1.

¹⁶ A/63/140.

¹⁷ A/63/140/Add.1.

¹⁸ A/61/826.

¹⁹ A/62/537.

the operations of critical elements of its information and communications technology infrastructure and facilities;

6. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,^{5,9} subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I. Information and communications technology strategy and governance

Recognizing the importance of the Secretary-General's knowledge management proposals, particularly in facilitating more informed decision-making and improving the effectiveness of the Organization,

Emphasizing the importance of strong, central leadership for the establishment and implementation of Organization-wide information and communications technology standards and activities in order to ensure efficient utilization of resources, modernization of information systems and improvement in the information and communications technology services available to the United Nations,

1. *Recognizes* that the successful integration of central information and communications technology functions across the Secretariat is essential to achieving coherence and coordination in the work of the Organization and between the Secretariat and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

2. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to establish the Office of Information and Communications Technology in a budget-and-staff-neutral manner;

3. *Stresses* the need for a simple and operationally effective information and communications technology governance structure with clear lines of authority and accountability;

4. *Decides* to establish the Office of Information and Communications Technology as an independent organizational unit under a separate budget section, to be headed by the Chief Information Technology Officer at the level of Assistant Secretary-General;

5. *Emphasizes* that there is no single governance model for information and communications technology that can be assumed to be solely appropriate for the United Nations;

6. *Notes* the considerable level of expertise in the International Computing Centre, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to utilize the services of the Centre in supporting the information and communications technology activities of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the centralization and integration of the information and communications technology functions under the Office of Information and Communications Technology do not have any negative impact on the support provided to field operations worldwide;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to foster deeper coordination and collaboration among United Nations organizations in all matters related to information and communications technology;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, to submit a revised strategic framework to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session in the light of the programmatic aspects of the revision arising from the creation of the Office of Information and Communications Technology;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on his information and communications technology strategy at the main part of its sixty-fifth session, including on:

(a) Any necessary adjustments to the governance structure to make it simpler and operationally effective as a policy setting and management instrument;

(b) An update on such management and reporting arrangements;

(c) An in-depth assessment of the organizational arrangement, including the possibility of changing the placement of the Office of Information and Communications Technology in the structure of the Organization;

(d) A comprehensive inventory of information and communications technology capacities across the Secretariat, including dedicated and part-time personnel;

(e) More precisely identified and quantified efficiency gains or benefits expected from the implementation of the information and communications technology strategy;

(f) The methodology and benchmarks used to identify and measure those benefits;

(g) The roles and responsibilities of the Office of the Chief Information Technology Officer and the Department of Field Support regarding information and communications technology activities, including on lines of authority, accountability and the division of labour set out in the new organizational structure;

II. Enterprise resource planning project

1. *Recalls* paragraph 4, section II, of resolution 60/283, and its decision to replace the Integrated Management Information System with a next-generation enterprise resource planning system or other comparable system;

2. *Stresses* that the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system should aim at consolidating the management of all financial, human and physical resources under a single integrated information system for the entire Organization, including for peacekeeping and field missions;

3. *Recognizes* the considerable operational and financial risks involved in the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system, and stresses the need for the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability and clear lines of responsibility for the project;

4. *Notes* the Secretary-General's intention to implement the functionalities of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system in ways that would mitigate organizational and managerial risks;

5. *Stresses* the need to implement the various functions of the enterprise resource planning system across the global range of United Nations offices in a

well-planned, step-by-step manner that ensures adequate preparation and training for each location and that minimizes the burden of change on the Organization and its resources, in order to further mitigate organizational and managerial risks;

6. *Notes* that the enterprise resource planning system provides for an integrated suite of information technology applications, as outlined by the Secretary-General in paragraph 20 of his report,¹ and requests the Secretary-General to report on those applications to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

7. *Approves* the proposed governance framework of the enterprise resource planning project;

8. *Notes* that the enterprise resource planning governance structure proposed by the Secretary-General is distinct from the information and communications technology governance structure;

9. *Recognizes* that the successful implementation of the enterprise resource planning project requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders;

10. *Emphasizes* that the enterprise resource planning project should be viewed primarily as a business project driven by business process demands and delivered through complex information technology systems requiring a high level of technical expertise;

11. *Recalls* that the objective of the enterprise resource planning project is to enhance the effective and transparent use of the resources of the Organization and, in that regard, emphasizes the need to identify tangible and measurable efficiency and productivity gains arising from the project;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to limit customization of the enterprise resource planning software to the extent feasible in order to ensure cost-effectiveness as well as flexibility in upgrading to new versions of the software and to report on any necessary customization with full justification of rationale and cost;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, where customization for a particular function is unavoidable, to consider enhancing existing systems or using specialized software that can integrate with the enterprise resource planning system where it is more cost-effective in the long-term;

14. *Stresses* that changes to the working practices and business processes of the Secretariat should always be considered before undertaking customization;

15. *Expresses* its readiness to consider any duly justified proposal aimed at reducing customization, stressing that any proposed changes to the United Nations regulations must obtain prior approval of the General Assembly;

16. *Stresses* that as a later adopter of the enterprise resource planning system, the United Nations can benefit from the lessons learned by other entities of the United Nations system that have implemented such systems;

17. *Takes note* of the overall resource requirements for the implementation of the enterprise resource planning systems for the United Nations as contained in the relevant report of the Secretary-General;³

18. *Approves* the amount of 20,000,000 United States dollars, comprising 5,110,000 dollars to be funded from the regular budget for the biennium 2008-2009,

7,050,000 dollars from the peacekeeping support account for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 and 7,840,000 dollars from extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008-2009 for the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system;

19. *Decides* to approve the utilization of the amount of 2,346,000 dollars of interest accrued under the Integrated Management Information System Fund available as at 31 December 2007 to offset the regular budget requirements for the enterprise resource planning project approved in paragraph 18 above;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to meet the regular budget share of requirements for the enterprise resource planning system in the amount of 2,764,000 dollars from the overall resources appropriated for the biennium 2008-2009 for the regular budget and to report the related expenditure as necessary in the second performance report for the biennium 2008-2009;

21. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in a total amount not to exceed 7.05 million dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 in respect of the support account share for the enterprise resource planning project;

22. *Takes note* that an estimated amount of 7,840,000 dollars will be financed from extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008-2009;

23. *Endorses* the cost-sharing arrangement for the financing of the enterprise resource planning project proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 79 of his report;³

24. *Decides* not to suspend the provisions for the application of credits under regulations 3.2 (d), 5.3 and 5.4 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, regarding the use of available balances in the surplus account of the United Nations General Fund and the unencumbered balance of active peacekeeping operations;

25. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year special account to record income and expenditures for this project;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the enterprise resource planning governance structure under review and to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fourth session on the enterprise resource planning project, including:

(a) An assessment of the organizational arrangements;

(b) A revised enterprise resource planning project implementation and updated budget, taking stock of the design phase, with a full and detailed justification of the resources needed;

(c) An updated business case, including details on tangible and measurable efficiency and productivity gains in the areas of operation and administration to be achieved through the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system, as well as benchmarks for measuring progress and the anticipated return on investment;

(d) Highlighting those modules that are essential for the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

(e) An update on the implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems, including further resources required, as well as the cost-sharing arrangement for their continued implementation;

(f) Justification of the need, and options for, contingency resources, including a possible budgetary alternative;

(g) Options for a reduced enterprise resource planning package at lower cost;

III. Customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems

1. *Recognizes* the benefits of the implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement those applications throughout the Organization, as appropriate;

2. *Stresses* that the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems shall be developed and implemented under the authority of the Chief Information Technology Officer in order to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of enterprise systems;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure complementarity between the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems with the forthcoming enterprise resource planning system;

4. *Decides* to approve additional resource requirements for the enterprise content management project in the amount of 2 million dollars under the regular budget for the biennium 2008-2009, and requests the Secretary-General to meet the above requirements from within the overall resources appropriated for the biennium 2008-2009 for the regular budget and report on the related expenditure, as necessary, in the second performance report for the biennium 2008-2009;

5. *Notes* that implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems is already in progress, and that at the time of the inception of those projects, the Secretary-General had not made a full proposal to the General Assembly;

IV. Security, disaster recovery and business continuity

1. *Emphasizes* the necessity for appropriate information and communications technology security, disaster recovery and business continuity plans;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consolidate systems in central data centres in order to strengthen disaster recovery and business continuity and to minimize the size of local primary and secondary data centres;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prioritize systems in order to minimize the cost of disaster recovery and business continuity;

4. *Recalls* section XV of its resolution 60/266, and stresses the need to ensure timely and secure communications and information exchange within and between duty stations, as well as to ensure that a robust and fault-tolerant

infrastructure is in place to continue or restart operations in the event of a natural or a man-made disaster or disruption;

5. *Notes* that the Secretariat lacks an Organization-wide approach to disaster recovery and business continuity, thereby exposing the Organization to considerable risks, and, in this regard, welcomes the development of a unified approach to disaster recovery and business continuity activities throughout the Secretariat;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to take a unified approach to disaster recovery and business continuity, utilizing all available infrastructure, in order to achieve economies of scale and cost efficiencies;

7. *Deeply regrets* that the Secretary-General entered into a long-term lease for the proposed Long Island data centre before the viability of the site as a secondary data centre for United Nations Headquarters had been fully established, and urges the Secretary-General to explore alternative uses for the leased space as a matter of urgency;

8. *Notes with concern* that the delay this caused may lead to further cost escalation, including to the capital master plan, and risk to data;

9. *Notes* the particular challenge of providing disaster recovery and business continuity to customized departmental information and communications technology systems, and encourages the Secretary-General to pursue an enterprise information and communications technology approach wherever possible;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations uses enterprise data centres rather than local data centres as far as possible;

11. *Decides* not to approve the proposal of the Secretary-General for a new secondary data centre at this stage, and requests him to report to the Assembly at the first part of its resumed sixty-third session on the risk mitigation measures to be taken during the relocation of the primary data centre to the North Lawn;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a unified disaster recovery and business continuity plan, including a permanent solution for Headquarters;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to fully explore the possibilities for consolidating and using the most reliable and cost-effective solution for data storage, business continuity services and hosting of enterprise systems, drawing on the experience of other United Nations entities and global developments in information and communications technology, and to report thereon to the Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fourth session;

14. *Encourages* application and data re-engineering where it supports the long-term goal of managing data recovery and business continuity in system-wide enterprise data centres and where, from a long-term perspective, it is more cost-effective than hosting them at a local data centre;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the commitment of the Government of Spain and approves the related proposal to host a secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, to support peacekeeping activities;

16. *Decides* not to proceed at this stage with plans to host computing and data storage equipment relating to Secretariat business continuity operations and

enterprise solutions at the secondary active communications facility at Valencia, Spain;

17. *Requests* that the report requested in paragraph 13 above include plans to reduce the number of local data centres at Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters and peacekeeping missions;

18. *Endorses* the cost-sharing arrangement proposed by the Secretary-General for the new primary data centre of the United Nations Headquarters;²⁰

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a proposal on cost-sharing arrangements in the context of the report requested in paragraph 11 above on the new secondary data centre;

20. *Takes note* of the intention to meet the estimated requirements in the amount of 149,400 dollars for the establishment of the secondary active telecommunications facility at Valencia, Spain, for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 from within resources approved for the same period for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

21. *Approves* the amount of 7,145,500 dollars, comprising 5,716,400 dollars to be funded from the regular budget to be met from resources appropriated under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, and authorizes the Secretary-General to report the related expenditure as necessary in the context of the second performance report of programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the establishment of a new primary data centre on the North Lawn;

22. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in a total amount not to exceed 1,429,100 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 in respect of support account share for the establishment of a new primary data centre on the North Lawn;

23. *Takes note* of paragraphs 89 and 96 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵ and decides to approve the amount of 2.5 million dollars, to be funded under the regular budget for the current biennium, for the provision of disaster recovery and business continuity services to Headquarters, offices away from Headquarters and field missions, and requests the Secretary-General to meet the above requirements from within the overall resources appropriated for the biennium 2008-2009 for the regular budget and report the related expenditures, as necessary, in the second performance report for the biennium 2008-2009;

V. International Public Sector Accounting Standards

1. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's first progress report on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;⁶

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁷

²⁰ A/62/477, para. 113.

3. *Recalls* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/283, approved the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations;

4. *Underlines* that the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards will improve governance, accountability and transparency in the United Nations system;

5. *Recognizes* that the enterprise resource planning system will serve as the backbone for implementation by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to work within the Board to monitor the application of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards to ensure consistency within the United Nations system as a whole;

VI. Cost accounting

1. *Endorses* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁹ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Takes note* of paragraphs 12, 17 and 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;¹⁹

3. *Notes* that cost accounting is more suitably applied to the support services of the Organization and may not be suitable for use in the substantive work of the Organization;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the methods for calculating costs of support services, including through a framework for cost accounting in order to standardize current costing practices, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Also requests* that the report include an analysis of other areas within the support services of the Organization in which cost accounting could be applied.



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Agenda item 148
Financing of the African Union-United Nations
Hybrid Operation in Darfur

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur^{1,2} and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³ subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;¹

Progress report for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

3. *Also takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;²

4. *Reaffirms* the provisions of paragraph 15 of its resolution 62/232 B of 20 June 2008;

¹ A/63/535.
² A/63/544.
³ A/63/606.



Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

5. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 449,855,000 United States dollars for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009, in accordance with the updated levels approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009 as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006, in addition to the amount of 919,400,200 dollars already apportioned among Member States under the terms of resolution 62/232 B, comprising the amount of 849,855,000 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2008, the amount of 60,624,500 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, and the amount of 8,920,700 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

6. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 5 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 6,373,050 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Operation for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, upon the advice of the Controller, to assess on Member States, as required, a further amount of up to 200,000,000 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009;

8. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 225,443,200 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008, shall, on an exceptional basis, and in the light of the submission of a progress report during the budget period, be offset against either their apportionment as provided for in paragraph 5 above or the apportionment for the Operation effective for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, according to the preference of the relevant Member State, in accordance with the updated levels approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/243, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237, and requests the Secretary-General to implement such an approach;

9. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 225,443,200 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Also decides* that the decrease of 4,687,900 dollars in staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2008 shall be set off against the credits from the amount of 225,443,200 dollars referred to in paragraphs 8 and 9 above;

11. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur".



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Agenda item 118

Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Development-related activities

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of development-related activities and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009¹ and the Development Account,² and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of development-related activities and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009¹ and the Development Account;²

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Acknowledges* that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizes that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing;

4. *Stresses* the importance of a coherent vision of the Secretariat's role in the global development architecture;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to enhance the coordination of the United Nations Development System with a view to ensuring

¹ A/62/708.

² A/63/335.

³ A/62/7/Add.40 and A/63/479.



greater synergies, effectiveness, efficiencies and coherence of efforts in the delivery of its social, economic and development mandates;

6. *Decides* to establish the posts as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

7. *Also decides* that the posts for section 17, Economic and social development in Africa, section 18, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, section 19, Economic development in Europe, section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia, shall be established effective 1 January 2009, and the posts for section 9, Economic and social affairs, section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, section 11, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and section 12, Trade and development, shall be established effective 1 July 2009;

8. *Further decides* not to abolish the post of the Special Adviser on Africa at the level of Under-Secretary-General;

9. *Decides* not to approve the non-post resources for travel of staff, consultants and experts and contractual services, excluding the regional commissions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution within the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

Annex

**Development-related activities: posts to be established under the
programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009**

<i>Section and subprogramme</i>	<i>Number of posts</i>	<i>Level</i>
9. Economic and social affairs		
Executive direction and management	1	1 P-5
1: Economic and Social Council support and coordination	1	1 P-4
2: Gender issues and advancement of women	5	1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3
3: Social policy and development	1	1 P-4
4: Sustainable development	1	1 P-4
5: Statistics	1	1 P-3
6: Population	1	1 P-4
9: Sustainable forest management	1	1 P-5
10: Financing for development	1	1 P-4
Subtotal	13	3 P-5, 7 P-4, 3 P-3
10. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States		
1: Least developed countries	1	1 P-4
2: Landlocked developing countries	1	1 P-4
3: Small island developing States	1	1 P-4
Subtotal	3	3 P-4
11. United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development		
1: Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	3	1 P-4, 2 P-3
Subtotal	3	1 P-4, 2 P-3
12. Trade and development		
1: Globalization, interdependence and development	6	1 D-1, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3
2: Investment, enterprise and technology	2	1 P-5, 1 P-4
3: International trade	2	1 D-1, 1 P-4
5: Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	2	1 D-1, 1 P-4
Subtotal	12	3 D-1, 2 P-5, 5 P-4, 2 P-3
17. Economic and social development in Africa		
Executive direction and management	1	1 National Officer
7: Subregional activities for development	11	11 National Officer
9: Statistics	6	2 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3

<i>Section and subprogramme</i>	<i>Number of posts</i>	<i>Level</i>
Programme support	1	1 National Officer
Subtotal	19	2 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3, 13 National Officer
18. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific		
3: Subregional activities for development	11	2 D-1, 4 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 Local level, 1 National Officer
Subtotal	11	2 D-1, 4 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 Local level, 1 National Officer
19. Economic development in Europe		
Executive direction and management	1	1 P-4
3: Statistics	1	1 P-3
5: Sustainable energy	1	1 P-4
Programme support	1	1 P-3
Subtotal	4	2 P-4, 2 P-3
20. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean		
1: Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	2	1 P-4, 1 P-3
2: Production and innovation	1	1 P-3
4: Social development and equity	1	1 P-3
5: Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	2	1 P-5, 1 P-3
6: Population and development	1	1 P-3
8: Sustainable development and human settlements	3	1 P-5, 1 P-3, 1 P-2
9: Natural resources and infrastructure	4	1 P-4, 2 P-2, 1 Local level
10: Statistics and economic projections	1	1 P-3
11: Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	3	1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 Local level
12: Subregional activities in the Caribbean	2	2 P-3
Subtotal	20	2 P-5, 3 P-4, 10 P-3, 3 P-2, 2 Local level
21. Economic and social development in Western Asia		
1: Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	1	1 P-4
2: Integrated social policies	1	1 P-4
3: Economic development and integration	1	1 P-4
4: Information and communication technology for regional integration	2	1 P-5, 1 National Officer
5: Statistics for evidence-based policymaking	1	1 P-3
Subtotal	6	1 P-5, 3 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 National Officer
Total	91	



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Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

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Strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/236 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, section 3, Political affairs, section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, and section 35, Staff assessment, related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs,¹ the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs,² the letter dated 7 March 2008 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba addressed to the Secretary-General,³ the letter dated 12 March 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba⁴ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵

Reaffirming the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

Recalling the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation⁶ and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,⁷

¹ A/62/521 and Corr.1.

² A/61/357.

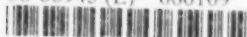
³ A/C.5/62/24.

⁴ A/C.5/62/25.

⁵ A/62/7/Add.32.

⁶ ST/SGB/2000/8.

⁷ ST/SGB/2003/7.



Stressing the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the role of the General Assembly and its relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies, within their respective mandates, in planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation,

Recognizing the prevention of armed conflict and the peaceful settlement of disputes are central to the mandate of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that preventive diplomacy is a core function of the United Nations and is central to the role of the Secretary-General and that the Department for Political Affairs has primary responsibility for carrying out preventive diplomacy and supporting the good offices function of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing further the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General, including in the mediation of disputes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Stresses* that any activity by the Department of Political Affairs related to preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution must be carried out in accordance with the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States;
3. *Also stresses* that improvement in the capacity of the United Nations to prevent and resolve conflicts is a better investment than dealing with the cost of armed conflict and its aftermath;
4. *Recognizes* the important role women play in the area of preventive diplomacy;
5. *Also recognizes* that the root causes of armed conflict are multidimensional in nature, thus requiring a comprehensive and integrated approach to the prevention of armed conflict;
6. *Notes* that the objective of strengthening and rationalizing the Department of Political Affairs, including its supportive role regarding preventive diplomacy and resolution of conflict, is to improve the Department's effectiveness and efficiency in fulfilling its mandate;
7. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;
8. *Also reaffirms* its role in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;
9. *Further reaffirms* its role with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, and stresses that proposals that amend the overall departmental structure, as well as the format of the programme budget and the biennial programme plan, are subject to its review and prior approval;
10. *Reaffirms* its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that in presenting the programme budget, expected

accomplishments and indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore potential synergies and complementarities among special political missions, where possible, in order to avoid duplication and overlap, bearing in mind the autonomous nature of each legislative mandate;

12. *Underlines* the continued importance of the role of the Secretary-General in ensuring, when appointing his special representatives and envoys, the highest standards of integrity, competency, impartiality and professionalism;

13. *Emphasizes* the sensitivity of the mandates of special political missions, and in this regard recalls Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations;

14. *Recalls* that the Secretary-General may nominate special representatives and envoys, and in this respect notes the intention of the Secretary-General to continuously consult with concerned Member States on these matters;

15. *Also recalls* the role of the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter;

16. *Reiterates* that the delegation of authority on the part of the Secretary-General should be in order to facilitate the better management of the Organization, but stresses that the overall responsibility for management of the Organization rests with the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer;

17. *Also reiterates* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

18. *Recalls* the letter dated 7 March 2008 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba addressed to the Secretary-General¹ and the letter dated 12 March 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba,⁴ stresses the strong concerns of some Member States contained therein, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that there is sufficient knowledge within the Department of Political Affairs of the political situation in all regions and to abide strictly by the principles enshrined in the Charter;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to ensure that, in the submission of future budget documents, the narrative parts are based solely on factual information;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the role of the Department of Political Affairs in providing appropriate political guidance in the context of its involvement in United Nations trust funds to which it provides such guidance, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

21. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
22. *Recalls* section V, paragraph 8, of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services⁵ and stresses the importance of its full implementation;
23. *Emphasizes* the importance of the integration of effort, policy coherence and efficiency in the use of resources;
24. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to address systemic issues that hamper good management of the Organization, including the work processes and procedures, and in that context stresses that structural change is no substitute for managerial improvement;
25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to identify, where possible, means to achieve greater complementarities and synergies between the Department of Political Affairs and other departments and offices of the United Nations Secretariat as well as other relevant actors of the United Nations system;
26. *Stresses* the importance of clear reporting lines and accountability between the special political missions and Headquarters;
27. *Decides* to establish the Middle East and West Asia Division and, in this regard, not to divide it into sections and units, and stresses the need to continue the current arrangement;
28. *Recalls* all United Nations resolutions related to the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine, and notes the responsibilities of the Middle East and West Asia Division in this regard;
29. *Decides* that Asia and Pacific Division shall be composed of two sections, as follows:
 - (a) Asia-Pacific I Section (Central, South and Northeast Asian countries);
 - (b) Asia-Pacific II Section (Southeast Asia and the Pacific countries);
30. *Also decides* that the Americas Division shall comprise four sections, as follows:
 - (a) North America;
 - (b) Central America;
 - (c) The Caribbean;
 - (d) South America;
31. *Stresses* the importance of the Department of Political Affairs continuing to pay adequate attention to the situation in Haiti in support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, together with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and other relevant United Nations entities;
32. *Decides* that the Caribbean Section shall be headed at the P-5 level;

33. *Stresses* the importance of the Department of Political Affairs continuing to pay adequate attention to regional and subregional organizations;

34. *Decides* not to establish a Policy, Partnerships and Mediation Support Division and not to approve the reclassification of a post for a director of that division from the D-1 to the D-2 level, and requests the Secretary-General to resubmit his proposals taking fully into account the mandate of the Department of Political Affairs as stipulated in the strategic framework;

35. *Also decides* not to establish a Special Political Missions Support Unit until a report on the management and administration of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs is considered by the General Assembly;

36. *Stresses* the need for the Secretary-General to consider the status of the existing field presence of the United Nations entities engaged in promoting peace and security, taking into account their respective mandates, before proposing the establishment of regional offices;

37. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷ and stresses that the establishment of any future regional political affairs office requires the concurrence of all concerned Member States covered by the relevant mandate approved by the appropriate legislative bodies;

38. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to regularly brief Member States on issues related to the work of the Department of Political Affairs and to keep ensuring appropriate interaction between the Department and the principal bodies of the Organization;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to conduct an audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs, as a follow-up to the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and to submit a report on the audit to the General Assembly for its consideration at the main part of its sixty-fourth session;

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive report at its sixty-fifth session on the efficiency and effectiveness of the new structure in the implementation of mandates as well as programmatic delivery and improvements to the administrative and management processes and efficiency gains;

41. *Decides* to establish the posts as contained in the annex to the present resolution

Annex

Department of Political Affairs: posts to be established under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

<i>Organizational unit</i>		<i>Number of posts</i>	<i>Post level</i>
United Nations Liaison Office	New Reclassification	3	1 P-5, 1 P-3, 1 LL 1 D-1 to D-2
Office of the Under-Secretary-General	Reclassification Redeployment		1 P-3 to P-4 D-2 from Americas Division
Office of the Assistant Secretary-General (Africa)	New	1	1 P-4
Africa I Division	New	8	3 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2, 2 GS (OL)
Africa II Division	New	6	1 P-3, 4 P-2, 1 GS (OL)
Middle East and West Asia Division	New	5	1 P-5, 1 P-4 (Iraq), 2 P-3, 1 P-2
Asia and Pacific Division	New	4	3 P-3, 1 P-2
Americas Division	New Redeployment	3	1 P-5, 2 P-2 D-2 to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General
Europe Division	New Reclassification	1	1 P-4 (Cyprus) 1 D-1 to D-2
Mediation Support Unit	New	7	1 P-4, 3 P-3, 2 P-2, 1 GS (OL)
Electoral Assistance Division	New Reclassification	8	1 P-5, 3 P-4, 4 GS (OL) 1 P-2 to P-3
Security Council Affairs Division	New	2	2 P-2
Executive Office	New Reclassification	1	1 P-4 1 P-5 to D-1
Total		49	2 D-2, -1 D-1, 3 P-5, 12 P-4, 12 P-3, 1 P-2, 8 GS (OL), 1 LL

Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other Level); LL, Local level.



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Human resources management

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Human resources management

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 8, 97, 100 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/222 A and B of 23 December 1994 and 20 July 1995, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 52/219 of 22 December 1997, 52/252 of 8 September 1998, 53/221 of 7 April 1999, 55/258 of 14 June 2001, 57/305 of 15 April 2003, 58/296 of 18 June 2004, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/260 of 8 May 2006, 61/244 of 22 December 2006, 61/276, section VIII, of 29 June 2007, 62/238, section XXI, of 22 December 2007 and 62/248 of 3 April 2008, as well as its other relevant resolutions and decisions,

Reaffirming that the staff of the United Nations is an invaluable asset of the Organization, and commending its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Paying tribute to the memory of all staff members who have lost their lives in the service of the Organization,

Having considered the relevant reports on human resources management submitted to the General Assembly,¹

Having also considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on an in-depth evaluation of the Office of Human Resources Management² and the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2006,³

¹ A/61/206, A/61/694, A/61/732, A/61/806 and Add.1, A/61/822, A/61/823, A/61/850, A/61/861, A/61/957, A/61/1029, A/62/185, A/62/186, A/62/215, A/62/274, A/62/285, A/62/315, A/62/707 and Add.1, A/62/845 and Add.1, A/62/890, A/63/132, A/63/189, A/63/204, A/63/208, A/63/282, A/63/285, A/63/290, A/63/298, A/63/301 and A/63/310 and Add.1-3.

² A/63/221.

³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 30, addendum (A/61/30/Add.1).*



Having further considered the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴

Endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions⁴ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

Human resources management reform

1. *Emphasizes* the fundamental importance of human resources management reform in the United Nations as a contribution to the strengthening of the international civil service, recalls, in this context, the reports of the International Civil Service Commission, and reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of these reforms;

2. *Stresses* the importance of a meaningful and constructive dialogue between staff and management, in particular on human resources-related issues, and calls upon both parties to intensify efforts to overcome differences and to resume the consultative process;

3. *Expresses concern* over the fact that staff representatives from New York and Geneva have withdrawn from participation in the Staff-Management Coordination Committee, and reiterates its call to the staff representatives from New York and Geneva and management to intensify efforts to overcome differences and to engage in a consultative process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take advantage of the existing mechanisms for conflict resolution and mediation as deemed useful and appropriate in order to facilitate renewed dialogue between staff and management;

5. *Recalls* section I, paragraphs 1 and 3, of its resolution 61/244, bearing in mind article VIII of the Staff Regulations, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals to review the staff-management mechanism for addressing human resources management issues at its sixty-fifth session, in consultation with relevant bodies;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services² concerning the in-depth evaluation of the Office of Human Resources Management, in particular the recommendations set out in section VI of the report;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵ to ensure that measures to identify and promote future leaders have clear criteria and mechanisms for selection, and are implemented within the framework of the staff selection system with information on precise financial implications;

II

Contractual arrangements and harmonization of conditions of service

1. *Stresses* the need for rationalization of the current United Nations system of contractual arrangements, which lacks transparency and is complex to administer;

⁴ A/62/7/Add.14 and A/63/526 and Corr.1.

⁵ A/63/526 and Corr.1.

2. *Approves* the new contractual arrangements which would comprise three types of appointments (temporary, fixed-term and continuing), under one set of Staff Rules, effective 1 July 2009, as set out in its resolution 62/248 and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General not to appoint any staff to continuing contracts before 1 January 2010 pending the General Assembly's consideration of the additional information concerning the implementation of continuing contracts;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the following issues with a view to the implementation of a system for the continuing appointment regime by 1 January 2010:

(a) Rigorous and transparent procedures for granting continuing appointments to staff, including the criteria for eligibility, the relationship with disciplinary measures and the central management of conversions;

(b) The role of, and options for, strengthening the performance appraisal system to ensure that staff members considered for continuing appointments have demonstrated the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, taking into account any deliberations of the International Civil Service Commission on this issue;

(c) The financial and management implications of converting fixed-term to continuing appointments, and the possible establishment of a ceiling on the number of conversions;

(d) Analysis of the implications of the proposed continuing appointments for the system of geographical ranges;

(e) Rigorous and transparent procedures to review the performance of staff and the continuing need for functions when determining and granting the termination of an appointment of a staff member, as well as clear and firm lines of accountability, to fully ensure that the granting and termination of continuing contracts is undertaken in a fair and transparent manner, with full regard to due process and the rights of staff;

(f) Options for ensuring that successful candidates from national competitive examinations and language staff are not disadvantaged by proposed changes;

(g) Analysis of the implications for Junior Professional Officers;

(h) The potential ramifications of the proposed amendment to staff regulation 9.1;

5. *Decides* to continue to suspend until 30 June 2009 the application of the four-year limit for appointments of limited duration under the 300 series of the Staff Rules in peacekeeping operations;

6. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind paragraph 5 above, to reappoint under the 100 series of the Staff Rules those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts has reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2009, provided that their functions have been reviewed and found necessary and their performance has been confirmed as fully satisfactory;

7. *Decides* that temporary appointments are to be used to appoint staff for seasonal or peak workloads and specific short-term requirements for less than one

year but could be renewed for up to one additional year when warranted by surge requirements and operational needs related to field operations and special projects with finite mandates;

8. *Also decides* that staff on temporary contracts would be eligible to receive only the following benefits and allowances: post adjustment; rental subsidy; hazard pay; hardship; the daily subsistence allowance portion of the assignment grant; leave (depending on the length of contract); home leave (per classification of duty station); and limited shipment allowance;

9. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to provide information on the circumstances in which the renewal of a temporary appointment for up to one additional year could be granted;

10. *Decides* that the field staff serving on 300-series appointments of less than four years who are not performing temporary functions are to be given mission-specific fixed-term contracts until such time as they have gone through a competitive process subject to the review of a central review body;

11. *Also decides* that staff on 100-, 200- and 300-series contracts serving in locations other than peacekeeping operations and special political missions for a cumulative period of more than one year who are not performing temporary functions are to be given fixed-term contracts until such time as they have gone through a competitive process subject to the review of a central review body;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present for its consideration at the first resumed part of its sixty-third session draft regulations that could implement a streamlined system of contracts;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to evaluate the impact of the implementation of the new system of contracts, including its financial implications, and to report on this matter no earlier than its sixty-seventh session;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to discontinue the practice of assigning staff from Headquarters to missions on a travel status basis for a period of more than three months;

15. *Recalls* section V, paragraph 2, of its resolution 51/226, in which it requested the Secretary-General to make efforts to achieve the level of 70 per cent of permanent appointments in posts subject to geographical distribution;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in accordance with legislative mandates, to ensure a judicious mix of career and fixed-term appointments, so as to have an appropriate balance between institutional memory, long-term commitment and independence and the ability to bring in fresh insights and expertise, and to dismiss non-performing staff;

17. *Recognizes* that an effective and credible performance appraisal system is an important element of the implementation of the new contractual arrangements;

18. *Acknowledges* the need to centrally manage the conversion from fixed-term to continuing appointments on a competitive and transparent basis;

19. *Decides* to revert at its sixty-fifth session to the proposal of the Secretary-General to create a cadre of civilian career peacekeepers in the light of the

lessons learned from the implementation of the new arrangements for contracts and conditions of service;

20. *Stresses* that the fair and equitable implementation of new contractual arrangements will be directly linked to the effective functioning of the new system of administration of justice;

21. *Decides* that there shall be no expectations, legal or otherwise, of renewal or conversion of a fixed-term contract, irrespective of the length of service, and requests the Secretary-General to reflect this in the rules and regulations as well as offers and letters of appointment;

22. *Also decides* that, in the context of the Secretary-General's proposal, "in the interest of the good administration of the Organization" is to be interpreted principally as a change or termination of a mandate;

23. *Reaffirms* that while continuing appointments are not implemented, successful candidates from national competitive recruitment examinations and staff from language services after two years of probationary service will continue to be granted open-ended appointments according to the current practice;

24. *Decides* that the period of service of Junior Professional Officers will not be taken into account as part of the requisite period of service for a continuing appointment;

25. *Notes* that the International Civil Service Commission will be reviewing all separation payments, including the possibility of an end-of-service bonus;

26. *Decides* to designate existing established missions as family missions and existing special missions as non-family missions, effective 1 July 2009;

27. *Also decides* that all staff appointed or assigned to non-family missions should be installed in accordance with conditions of the United Nations common system, without the special-operations approach;

28. *Requests* the International Civil Service Commission to keep the issue of United Nations common system conditions of service in the field under review;

29. *Decides* to keep the issue of United Nations common system conditions of service in the field under review;

30. *Approves* the introduction of a rest and recuperation scheme to include travel time, appropriate to the location, but no payment of travel to the staff member, for internationally recruited staff members in United Nations field operations to replace the occasional recuperation break, effective 1 January 2009;

III

Recruitment and staffing

1. *Reiterates* that the Secretary-General has to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* that measures on meeting organizational mandates, accountability targets and indicators of achievement, including with respect to

geographical distribution of staff and gender balance, contained in human resources action plans and recruitment procedures, including selection decisions, shall fully correspond to the provisions contained in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter as well as in relevant General Assembly mandates;

3. *Notes* that the upcoming demographic transition of United Nations staff will present organizational challenges in terms of staff continuity and possible loss of institutional knowledge as well as opportunities to rejuvenate the Organization;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for strategic workforce planning to proactively support the human resources needs of the United Nations, and in this regard urges the Secretary-General to pursue efforts in this area as a matter of priority;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that outreach activities cover positions both at Headquarters and in the field;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of speeding up the recruitment and staffing process, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, which will ensure that staff are diverse, multi-skilled and versatile;

7. *Acknowledges* the need to simplify the current reference check for speeding up the recruitment process and requests the Secretary-General to review the procedure and take necessary actions as soon as possible;

8. *Decides* that in order to ensure the transparency of the recruitment process all specific vacancy announcements shall continue to be advertised;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure equal treatment of candidates with equivalent educational backgrounds during the recruitment process, taking fully into account that Member States have different educational systems and that no education system shall be considered the standard to be applied to the Organization;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, when appointing officials at the D-1 and D-2 levels in departments of the Secretariat that provide backstopping and/or policy guidance to field missions, to fully consider the relevant field experience of the candidates, as one of the highly desirable appointment criteria;

11. *Underlines* that the upgraded electronic staff selection system of the United Nations must be clear, simplified, user-friendly and accessible to potential candidates and that regular monitoring must be in place to ensure transparency and non-discrimination, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

12. *Recognizes* that pre-screened rosters can considerably expedite the recruitment process in the United Nations;

13. *Notes* that the existing rosters for Headquarters and established duty stations under the current staff selection system have design flaws and have not been utilized widely to fill vacancies;

14. *Acknowledges* the necessity of ensuring transparency and accountability with respect to recruitment of general temporary assistance and consultants;

15. *Reaffirms* section II, paragraph 6, of its resolution 61/244, in which it decided to retain the criterion of geographical status in the staff selection system as

one of the key elements to ensure geographical balance at each level for posts subject to geographical distribution;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all anticipated and immediate vacancies are properly advertised and filled quickly, and to report on the success of this endeavour at its sixty-fifth session;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of staff representatives in the work of the central review bodies, and requests the Secretary-General and invites staff representatives to engage in a consultative process with a view to resuming the participation of staff representatives in the work of the central review bodies;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include analysis of the implementation of the human resources action plans in the context of the report on the composition of the Secretariat;

19. *Recognizes* the added value that a redesign panel could bring to the reform of the recruitment and staffing processes;

20. *Decides* to revert to the issue of establishing a redesign panel for this purpose at its sixty-fifth session;

IV

National competitive examinations

1. *Reaffirms* that national competitive examinations are the source of recruitment for P-2 posts subject to geographical distribution in order to reduce non-representation and underrepresentation of Member States in the Secretariat;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, for consideration at its sixty-fifth session, a feasibility study, building on audit reports, to determine whether the broadening of the scope of the national competitive examination would serve to further strengthen the Organization's capacity for programme delivery, as advised by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;⁵

3. *Notes with concern* that a large number of candidates who have passed national competitive examinations remain on the roster for years;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious placement of successful candidates from national competitive examinations;

5. *Welcomes* the enhanced efforts of the Secretary-General to centrally manage the placement of successful candidates from national competitive examinations, and requests him to intensify these efforts and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the Joint Inspection Unit recommendations aimed at reducing the length of the national competitive recruitment examination process and improving the national competitive recruitment examination roster management, as well as setting time frames for its completion;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to further cooperate within the framework of the Human Resources Network, making better

use of national competitive recruitment examinations and existing rosters, and improving inter-agency mobility;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of the Secretary-General providing career development opportunities and support, including enhancing mobility for all staff, including those recruited from national competitive examinations;

V

Accountability

1. *Recalls* its resolution 61/244 and all other relevant resolutions on human resources management, including geographical distribution and gender representation in posts, and stresses the accountability of the Secretary-General for implementation and the concrete results obtained for these important principles and mandates;

2. *Emphasizes* that robust and proactive monitoring is essential at all levels, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Human Resources Management continues to strengthen its monitoring of delegated authority for human resources management, including compliance with geographic and gender targets and the prompt filling of vacancies;

3. *Notes* that the senior managers' compacts are meant to improve the management of the Organization, inter alia, by increasing accountability and transparency at the senior level, and in this regard urges the Secretary-General to implement measures that adequately address the performance of senior managers, especially with regard to achieving goals and targets;

VI

Performance appraisal system

1. *Emphasizes* that a credible, fair and fully functioning performance appraisal system is critical to effective human resources management policies;

2. *Expresses its concern* over the lack of credibility and effectiveness of the current performance appraisal system, and stresses the need for it to accurately reflect the full range of performance, in order to be able to reward staff for excellent performance and impose sanctions for underperformance and to strengthen the link between performance and career progression, in particular for those staff members in managerial positions;

3. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to begin utilizing 360-degree performance appraisals, and requests the Secretary-General to report at its sixty-fifth session on how this can be further implemented;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the current performance appraisal system in consultation with staff through the appropriate channels, and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

VII

Mobility

1. *Reaffirms* section VIII of its resolution 59/266;

2. *Stresses* that the purpose of enhancing mobility is to improve the effectiveness of the Organization and to foster the skills and capacity of staff;

3. *Decides* to review the rules and regulations of the Organization relating to the exercise of the Secretary-General's authority to assign and deploy staff according to the operational needs of the Organization, and requests him to present proposals in this regard at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Regrets* that the Secretary-General's mobility policies failed to achieve their intended purposes;

5. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General as set out in his report⁶ to suspend the managed mobility programmes upon completion of the D-1/D-2 exercise, in order for a review to be undertaken, including on the maximum period of occupancy of post and lessons learned, with a view to developing proposals on the mobility policy, taking into account recommendations from the Human Resources Management Task Force, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including staff associations, and requests him to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session in the context of his regular human resources report, with an analysis of cost and benefits, bearing in mind paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁵

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals aimed at encouraging voluntary mobility of staff in the context of the review of the mobility policy without prejudice to the different needs of duty stations and the field;

7. *Emphasizes* that the scope of the mobility policy should be well defined;

VIII

Career development and support

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in complying with paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵ to make all possible efforts within existing resources;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of defining the target and strategy of training and career development;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make full use of the grade structure and to submit a concrete proposal at the sixty-fifth session on how and where P-1 positions might be used more effectively;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals on a strategy to implement an efficient and effective training and professional development programme in the context of the budget submission for the biennium 2010-2011;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that each vacancy announcement identifies accurately the skills, education and experience needed for the position;

6. *Recognizes* the core role played by programme managers in career development and support, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the evaluation of their managerial skills and their performance in fostering staff career development;

⁶ A/63/208.

IX

Measures to improve equitable geographical representation/composition of the Secretariat

1. *Recalls* its resolution 42/220 A, by which it introduced the current system of desirable ranges;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his ongoing efforts to attain equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat and to ensure as wide a geographical distribution of staff as possible in all departments, offices and levels, including the Director level and higher levels, of the Secretariat;
3. *Recalls* section X, paragraph 12, of its resolution 61/244, and expresses its concern over the increase that has taken place in the number of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States since 2006;
4. *Regrets* the current insufficient accountability of heads of departments in achieving equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat;
5. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the situation of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States and of those which might become underrepresented under the system of desirable ranges;
6. *Notes* the analysis of the level of underrepresentation in the report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat;
7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure, at the senior and policymaking levels of the Secretariat, equitable representation of Member States, especially those with inadequate representation at those levels, and to continue to include relevant information thereon in all future reports on the composition of the Secretariat;
8. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General to present proposals to effectively increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;
9. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's efforts to set specific targets throughout the Organization in order to increase recruitment from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States;
10. *Considers* that encouragement of recruitment from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States as well as gender balance targets shall not disallow other qualified candidates from competing;
11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, through the Management Performance Board, the monitoring of the implementation of human resources action plans, including the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat at all levels, as set out in relevant General Assembly resolutions, and the verification of the effective application of measures of transparency and accountability, including in the selection, recruitment and placement processes;
12. *Reiterates its request* as contained in section X, paragraph 8, of its resolution 61/244;
13. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of its resolution 62/250, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the

Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, taking into account their contribution to United Nations peacekeeping;

14. *Re-emphasizes* that the system of geographic ranges was designed to apply to countries rather than to regions or groups;

15. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General to reduce, to the extent possible, the number of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States in the Secretariat by 30 per cent by 2010, compared to the level in 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it thereon, as appropriate, in the context of his report on human resources management;

16. *Reaffirms* that the system of desirable ranges is the mechanism for recruitment of staff in posts subject to geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

17. *Recognizes* that considerable change has taken place in the composition and the number of staff of the global United Nations Secretariat in the past two decades, recalls the reports of the Secretary-General,⁷ and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-fifth session, proposals for a comprehensive review of the system of desirable ranges, with a view to establishing a more effective tool to ensure equitable geographical distribution in relation to the total number of staff of the global United Nations Secretariat;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to gradually incorporate within his report on the composition of the Secretariat the overall number of staff, regardless of sources of funding, on contracts of one year or more;

19. *Reiterates its request* as contained in section X, paragraph 15, of its resolution 61/244, and recalls section II, paragraph 2, of its resolution 42/220 A;

X

Gender representation

1. *Reaffirms* the goal of 50:50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter, and regrets that progress towards attaining this goal has been slow;

2. *Expresses concern* at the continuing low proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular the low proportion among them of women from developing countries, especially at the senior levels, and stresses that the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, should be taken into account and that those women should be accorded equal opportunities in the recruitment process, in full conformity with relevant resolutions;

3. *Notes with concern* that, in posts subject to the system of desirable ranges, only 33 women from developing countries were recruited between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2008 among the 96 women appointed during that period;

⁷ A/58/767 and A/59/724.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase his efforts to attain and monitor the goal of gender parity in the Secretariat, in particular at senior levels, and in this context to ensure that women, especially those from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, are appropriately represented within the Secretariat, and to report thereon at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Notes* the renewed effort the Secretary-General has made towards attaining this goal, particularly the decision to design and implement a forward-looking strategy under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General, and encourages him to further strengthen these efforts;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of attaining this goal, to develop and implement recruitment targets, time frames for meeting those targets and accountability measures;

7. *Encourages* Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary-General by identifying more women candidates and encouraging them to apply for appointment to positions in the Secretariat and by creating awareness among their nationals, in particular women, of vacancies in the Secretariat;

XI

Consultants, individual contractors, gratis personnel and employment of retired staff

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to adhere to existing guidelines on the selection and recruitment of consultants and individual contractors;

2. *Expresses concern* over the increase in the use of consultants, especially in the core activities of the Organization, stresses that the use of consultants should be governed by the relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 53/221, section VIII, and drawn from the widest possible geographic basis, and requests the Secretary-General to make the greatest possible use of in-house capacity and to report on the measures taken to that effect at its sixty-fifth session;

3. *Reiterates its concern* that the continuous trend of hiring staff retirees for extended periods of time increased in the last biennium;

4. *Reiterates* that employment of retirees in decision-making positions should occur only in exceptional circumstances;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in future reports on the employment of retirees, analysis on reasons for patterns and trends that emerge from data presented;

XII

Report of the Ethics Office

1. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Ethics Office to promoting integrity within the Organization;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Ethics Committee;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to clarify the roles of the Ethics Office, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and other related offices, and to report the findings, as well as the measures taken to avoid overlapping of mandates, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to discuss with the executive heads of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, within the framework of the Chief Executives Board, areas of possible cooperation and cost savings on ethics-related matters;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the activities of the Ethics Office, information on the activities of the Ethics Committee, including a review of any complex ethics issues dealt with by the Committee if deemed relevant;

XIII

Other matters

1. *Notes with concern* that many disciplinary cases have not been completed in a reasonable time, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report information on measures taken to increase the number of cases closed;

2. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the report of the Secretary-General "Implementation of the Regulations Governing the Status, Basic Rights and Duties of Officials other than Secretariat Officials and Experts on Mission"⁸ without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the main committee of the General Assembly for administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the human resources management information technology system at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen programmes to promote health in hardship posts, including through psychological support and disease awareness, with a view to promoting productivity and a better work environment;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹

6. *Also takes note* of the amendments to the Staff Rules as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned report.

⁸ A/61/1029.

⁹ A/61/823.



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Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

The General Assembly,

I
Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre and additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, and improving and modernizing the conference facilities and construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling its resolution 56/270 of 27 March 2002, section IV of its resolution 58/272 of 23 December 2003 and sections IX and X of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on improving and modernizing the conference facilities and the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi¹ and on the construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre, and the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa,² as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to construct, improve and modernize facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the Vienna International Centre to ensure the efficient work of the Organization,

¹ A/62/794.

² A/63/303.

³ A/63/465.



1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Governments of Ethiopia and Kenya, as host countries, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the improvement and modernization of the conference facilities and the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and of the efforts of the Government of Austria, as host country, in completing the construction of new conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre, as well as in achieving good progress in the asbestos removal project;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;⁴

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Underlines* the risks inherent in the execution of construction projects, and stresses the importance of adequate planning, coordination and project supervision to avoid going over budget;

5. *Expresses concern* about the delays and procedural difficulties in the execution of the projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, which are contributing to project cost escalation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake management reviews of the projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi with a view to expediting their implementation, to ensure that a dedicated project management capacity is in place at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to report thereon in the context of his next annual progress reports;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of guidance, interaction and coordination between the Secretariat in New York, on the one hand, and the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, on the other hand, with clear reporting lines;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability for the delays, lack of responsiveness of management to the needs of the construction projects in Addis Ababa and Nairobi and other factors that have contributed to delays in the implementation of the projects and project cost escalation and to include that information in his next annual progress reports;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the leadership and guidance of the Secretary-General and senior management as well as a commitment to the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi by all concerned parties during the execution and completion of the projects;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the Member States through regular informal briefings on the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi.

⁴ A/62/794 and A/63/303.

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to complete the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi as planned, without any further delays or additional requirements from the regular budget, and to ensure that progress is monitored by the Under-Secretary-General for Management, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction regulations and rules of the Organization, including the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, are abided by and fully upheld in all phases of the construction projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

13. *Approves* the revised estimated cost of 25,252,200 United States dollars for the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

14. *Also approves* the use of interest income of 798,200 dollars as at 31 December 2007, and further approves the use of future interest income generated by accumulated rental income for the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

15. *Further approves* the revised estimated cost of 3,479,000 dollars for improving and modernizing the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with ensuring continuing effective audit coverage as well as regular, thorough management reviews of the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi, to be reported on in the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the General Assembly;

17. *Recalls* paragraphs 24, 25, 35 and 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³ and requests the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, information that outlines clearly the interaction between the Secretariat in New York and other duty stations in relation to construction and long-term renovation projects and that specifies all aspects of the division of responsibility and accountability;

II

Revised estimates relating to the Rule of Law Unit

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the Rule of Law Unit⁴ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵

1. *Take note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁶

³ A/63/154.

⁴ A/63/594.

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁶ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Decides* to establish one P-5, two P-4 and one P-3 posts for the Rule of Law Unit, effective 1 January 2009;

III

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2008

Recalling its resolution 63/251 of 24 December 2008, entitled "United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission",

Takes note of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2008⁷ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008⁹ and endorses the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁰

V

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its seventh, eighth and ninth sessions, proposals to improve the procedure for presenting to the General Assembly the financial requirements arising from the resolutions and decisions of the Council and a consolidated statement on resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council arising from its continuing review of its subsidiary machinery and related programme budget implications

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General¹¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹²

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;¹³
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;¹²

⁶ A/63/360.

⁷ A/63/501.

⁸ A/63/371.

⁹ A/63/567.

¹⁰ A/63/541 and Add.1 and A/63/587.

¹¹ A/63/629.

VI

Revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹³ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁴

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁵
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;¹⁶

VII

Review of the lump-sum arrangement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General¹⁷ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁸

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁹
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;²⁰

VIII

Human resources management

Recalling section II of its resolution 63/250 of 24 December 2008.

1. *Decides* to approve, in connection with the harmonization of contractual arrangements, an additional appropriation in the amount of 13,165,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a total amount of 80,900,900 dollars in the respective budgets of the affected peacekeeping missions for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

IX

Administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General²¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²²

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²³
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on any additional requirements arising from the recommendations of the Board in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

¹³ A/63/593.

¹⁴ A/63/628.

¹⁵ A/63/537.

¹⁶ A/63/616.

¹⁷ A/63/363.

¹⁸ A/63/556.

X

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, related to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, in Baghdad

Recalling its resolutions 62/237A and 62/238 of 22 December 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 3, Political affairs, and 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, related to the provision of an integrated headquarters facility for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, in Baghdad,¹⁹ the relevant parts of the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq²⁰ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²¹

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁹*
- 2. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²¹ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;*
- 3. Welcomes the contribution of the Government of Iraq, and recognizes the importance of the proposal for the construction of a purpose-built integrated headquarters for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq;*
- 4. Approves commitment authority for 2009 for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in the amount of 5 million dollars under section 32 of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 to undertake design work in connection with the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad;*
- 5. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the project is based on accurate assumptions and that its planning phase takes into account the experience of the execution of other construction projects in the United Nations as well as ensuring proper accountability with regard to the implementation of the project;*
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a new, complete and detailed proposal for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad, under section 32, of the programme budget, for its consideration early in the second part of its resumed sixty-third session, with detailed comprehensive financial requirements and clear timelines for the different phases of its implementation.*

XI

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling its resolutions 62/237 A and 62/238 of 22 December 2007 and 62/245 of 3 April 2008,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized

¹⁹ A/62/928.

²⁰ A/63/346 and Add.5.

²¹ A/63/601.

by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council²³ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.²⁴

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;²⁵
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²⁶ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Regrets* that the timing of the presentation of the report of the Secretary-General to the Fifth Committee was delayed until the last week of the main part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;
4. *Takes note* of paragraph 94 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²⁷ and decides to establish one Political Affairs Officer at the level P-3 and five Local level positions;
5. *Also takes note* of paragraph 158 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²⁸ and decides to reclassify the Chief Technical Adviser position from the D-1 to the D-2 level;
6. *Decides* to establish a position at the P-5 level, instead of one at the P-4 level, in the Office of the Special Adviser for Cyprus;
7. *Approves* budgets totalling 429,497,600 dollars for the twenty-seven special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council presented in table I of the report of the Secretary-General;²⁹
8. *Takes note* of the estimated unencumbered balance of 15,850,800 dollars;
9. *Decides* to appropriate, after taking into account the estimated unencumbered balance of 15,850,800 dollars, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of 413,646,800 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;
10. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 26,432,000 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

XII

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009³⁰ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³¹

Recalling its resolutions 62/237 A and B of 22 December 2007 and 62/245,

²³ A/63/346 and Corr.1; Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2-5.

²⁴ A/63/593.

²⁵ A/63/346.

²⁶ A/63/573.

²⁷ A/63/620.

Taking note of the current challenges caused by the global financial crisis,

1. *Reaffirms the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213 and reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;*
2. *Takes note of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009,²⁵ and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report,²⁶ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;*
3. *Also takes note of paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²⁶ and emphasizes that the content of the first performance report should be limited, in principle, to a description of parameter changes endorsed by the General Assembly;*
4. *Endorses paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²⁶ and requests the Secretary-General to explore the recosting methodologies used by other international organizations with that used by the Secretariat, taking into account the unique nature of the United Nations, and to report thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;*
5. *Recalls section III, paragraph 6, of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to implement the provisions of that paragraph and to report thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;*
6. *Approves a net increase of 174.0 million dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2008-2009 and a net increase of 6.8 million dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;²⁷*
7. *Decides to apportion among Member States 129.0 million dollars for expenses related to the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;*
8. *Approves up to 45.0 million dollars for expenses relating to the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, upon the receipt by the President of the General Assembly of a letter from the Secretary-General, to be apportioned among Member States, as an exception to regulation 3.1 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;²⁷*
9. *Stresses, bearing in mind the third preambular paragraph above, that the provisions of paragraph 8 constitute an exceptional measure;*

XIII

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 5,122,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund

²⁵ ST/SGR/2003/7